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THE ARMY.

AMONG the Army and Navy officers who attended the Presidential reception on New Year's were Generals Townsend, Dyer, Meigs, Ramsay, Shiras, Barnes, Whipple, and Vincent, Judge-Advocate-General Holt, General McKee Dunn, Colonel Mack, Lieutenant-Colonel Marten, and others; Vice-Admiral Rowan, Commander Sands, Captain Ammen, Commander Fillebrown, Pay Director Cunningham, Medical Director Foltz, and others of the Navy; and from the Marine Corps, General Zeilen, Majors Nicholson, Cash, and Slack, and Captain Williams. Among the receptions which, in addition to those of the Cabinet, are noticed as conspicuous for their elegance and heartiness, were those of Mrs. Thomas B. Bryan, Mrs. Freeman Clarke, Mrs. General Delafield, Mrs. Senator Edmunds, Mrs. J. W. Thomson, Mrs. Colonel Bristow, Mrs. General Myer, Mrs. Alexander R. Shepherd, Mrs. Senators Frelinghuysen, Corbett, Ramsey, and Pomeroy, Mrs. Judge Swayne, Mrs. Admiral Porter, Mrs. Charles Astor Bristed, Mrs. General McKee Dunn and her daughter, Mrs. McKee, and many others. Mrs. Williams, the wife of Attorney-General Williams, held her first reception. Secretary Belknap was assisted by his sisters, Mrs. Wolcott and Miss Belknap, his sister-in-law, Mrs. Bower, and his niece, Miss Worthington. The day closed bright and clear.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending December 25, 1871.

Tuesday, December 19.

LEAVE of absence for sixty days, from November 28, 1871, is hereby granted Assistant Surgeon Charles Mackin, U. S. Army.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant George W. H. Stouch, Third Infantry, in Special Orders No. 163, December 1, 1871, from headquarters General Recruiting Service, New York city, is hereby extended forty days.

Recruit Fritz Soupe, General Service U. S. Army, now in confinement at Omaha Barracks, Nebraska, will be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be confined.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish Thomas Fogerty, formerly corporal, Company F, Seventh Infantry, with transportation from Windsor, Shelby Co., Illinois, to this city, to enable him to enter the Soldiers' Home, the cost of which will be refunded to the Quartermaster's Department by the treasurer of the Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia.

Wednesday, December 20.

At his own request, Superintendent John J. Smith, National Cemetery at Brownsville, Texas, is hereby discharged the service of the United States, to take effect December 1, 1871.

The unexecuted portion of the sentence of a General Court-martial, promulgated in General Orders No. 50, of September 10, 1870, from headquarters Department of Texas, directing that Private John Cook, Company L, Sixth Cavalry (now in confinement in the State Penitentiary at Baton Rouge, La.), "be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States, to forfeit all pay and allowances that are now or that may become due him, and to be confined at hard labor at such military prison as the general commanding the Department may direct for the period of six years," is hereby remitted, and he will be released from confinement upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be confined.

The leave of absence granted Captain Montgomery Bryant, Sixth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 208, November 15, 1871, from headquarters Department of the Missouri, is hereby extended sixty days.

Leave of absence until July 1, 1872, with permission to go beyond sea, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant James R. Wasson, Fourth Cavalry.

The resignation of Second Lieutenant James R. Wasson, Fourth Cavalry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect July 1, 1872.

Captain Eugene B. Beaumont, Fourth Cavalry, recruiting officer, Philadelphia, Pa., is hereby appointed to act as inspector on certain unserviceable ordnance property on hand at the recruiting rendezvous of First Lieutenant Daniel T. Wells, Eighth Infantry, Philadelphia, Pa., for which Lieutenant Wells is responsible.

Thursday, December 21.

The unexecuted portion of the sentence of a General Court-martial, promulgated in General Orders No. 82, of December 19, 1870, from headquarters Department of Texas, directing that Private Gates Wilson, Company I, Twenty-fifth Infantry (now in confinement in State penitentiary at Baton Rouge, Louisiana), "be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States, with forfeiture of all pay and allowances now due, or that may become due him, and to be confined at such penitentiary as the commanding officer of the Department of Texas may direct for the period of two years," is hereby remitted, and he will be released from confinement upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be confined.

On the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General, Captain E. D. Baker, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, is hereby relieved from duty at Camp Halleck,

Nevada. He is authorized to proceed, at his own expense, to San Francisco, California.

The resignation of First Lieutenant Edward C. Bartlett, First Cavalry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect November 15, 1871.

Friday, December 22.

Private Charles Manthy, Company A, Seventh Infantry, having performed the duties assigned him in Special Orders No. 173, November 19, 1871, from headquarters Fort Ellis, Montana Territory, will return to his station at Fort Ellis, with permission to delay thirty days en route. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation. Commutation of subsistence at the usual rates will be furnished while en route (not including the thirty days he is permitted to delay).

Commutation of subsistence at seventy-five cents per day for ninety-eight days will be paid to Private Peter Scannell, Company G, Second Cavalry, being for subsistence for five men, furnished by the soldier while en route from Fort Ellis, Montana Territory, conducting Sergeant James Herbert, Company G, Second Cavalry (a disabled soldier), to this city for medical treatment.

Saturday, December 23.

Recruit William Woods (unassigned), now supposed to be at Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory, is hereby assigned to Company B, First Cavalry, and will be forwarded to it at the first favorable opportunity. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

As soon as existing requisitions have been filled, the superintendent General Recruiting Service will prepare and forward under proper charge the following detachments of recruits: Fifty to Fort Monroe, Virginia, where they will be reported upon arrival to the commanding officer Artillery School for assignment to batteries G, First; K, Second; A, Fifth; I, Fourth; and C, Fifth Artillery. Eleven to Fort Washington, Maryland, where they will be reported upon arrival to the commanding officer of that post for assignment to Battery M, Fourth Artillery. Fifteen to Fort Foote, Maryland, where they will be reported upon arrival to the commanding officer of that post for assignment to Battery F, Fourth Artillery. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

On the recommendation of the regimental commander, the following transfer in the Third Infantry is hereby announced: Second Lieutenant Lorenzo W. Cooke from Company A to Company D. Lieutenant Cooke will join his proper station without delay.

Captain Frank M. Cox, Twenty-fifth Infantry, recruiting officer, Memphis, Tennessee, is hereby appointed to act as inspector on certain unserviceable recruiting property on hand at the rendezvous of Captain George A. Purington, Ninth Cavalry, Memphis, Tennessee, and for which Captain Purington is responsible.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish Samuel R. Ingols, formerly private of Company D, Sixth Infantry, with transportation from Dayton, Ohio, to this city, to enable him to enter the Soldiers' Home, the cost of which will be refunded to the Quartermaster's Department by the treasurer of the Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia.

Leave of absence for six months, on surgeon's certificate of disability, is hereby granted Captain William Kelly, Eighth Cavalry.

Leave of absence for three months is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Albert L. Myer, Eleventh Infantry.

On the recommendation of the regimental commander, the following transfers in the Twenty-second Infantry are hereby announced: Second Lieutenant George S. L. Ward, from Company H to Company I; Second Lieutenant O. M. Smith, from Company I to Company H.

[No Special Orders were issued from the Adjutant-General's Office on the following dates: December 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 31, and January 1, 1872.]

Friday, December 29.

The unexecuted portion of the sentence of a General Court-martial, promulgated in General Court-martial Orders No. 46, of April 11, 1871, from headquarters Department of the Missouri, directing that Private Rey Young, Company I, Third Infantry, "forfeit to the United States all pay now due or to become due, except the just dues of the laundress; to be dishonorably discharged the service, and to be confined at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, for the period of three years," is hereby remitted, and he will be released from confinement upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be confined.

The following named enlisted men will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the places where they may be serving. These men are not entitled to travel pay: Sergeant John Daines, Battery B, Fifth Artillery; Private William Stewart, Company H, Fourteenth Infantry; Private Peter Guttman, Permanent Troop, Mounted Service U. S. Army, now at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

So much of paragraph 2, Special Orders No. 477, December 28, 1871, from this office, as relates to the assignment of recruits to Battery A, Fifth Artillery, is hereby amended to read: Battery A, Third Artillery.

By direction of the President, and in accordance with section 26 of the act of July 28, 1866, First Lieutenant Joseph P. Sanger is hereby detailed as professor of military science and tactics at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Me., and will report accordingly.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant George

Atcheson, Seventh Infantry, in Special Orders No. 274, December 18, 1871, from headquarters Department of Dakota, is hereby extended till June 30, 1872.

The resignation of First Lieutenant George Atcheson, Seventh Infantry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect June 30, 1872.

Leave of absence for six months is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Gilbert P. Cotton, First Artillery.

Hospital Steward John Crawford, U. S. Army, now confined in the penitentiary at Huntsville, Texas, will be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States, to date November 25, 1871.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Company I, First Cavalry, from Camp McDowell, A. T., to Camp Verde, A. T., November 27.

Company B, Third Cavalry, from Camp Date Creek, A. T., to Yuma Depot, A. T., November 27.

Companies I and M, Third Cavalry, from Camp McDowell, A. T., to Yuma Depot, A. T., November 27.

Company F, Seventh Cavalry, from Meridian, Miss., to Louisville, Ky., November 17.

Entire regiment, Twenty-first Infantry, from the Department of Arizona, to the Department of Columbia, December 8.

Entire regiment, Twenty-third Infantry, from the Department of Columbia, to the Department of Arizona, December 8.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieutenant-General P. H. Sheridan: Headquarters, Chicago, Ill.

General Sheridan has taken a prominent part in entertaining the Grand Duke Alexis at Chicago, and is arranging for a Buffalo hunt with him in the Republican river country. The party will go to Milwaukee, St. Louis, Kansas City and Leavenworth, and reach Omaha on the 10th of January, where General Sheridan will receive them, and with proper military escort conduct them to the hunting ground. If the snow is too deep to hunt the party will take the cars to San Francisco, Friday morning January 5, the Grand Duke was to leave Chicago for St. Louis, where he will remain for several days, but leaving in time to reach Omaha on the 10th of January, on which day he will be accompanied by General Sheridan to Fort McPherson. The general will leave Chicago soon to make the preliminary arrangements with old Red Cloud for the reception and entertainment of the party, and if the weather is only propitious the occasion will be one of great prominence in the events of Alexis' American tour. The *Journal de St. Petersburg*, the Russian official organ, says "the cordial reception of the Grand Duke Alexis in the United States creates a profound sense of satisfaction throughout Russia. The existing relations between the two countries, strengthened by the noble hospitality with which the son of the Emperor has been received, are now more than ever a pledge of enduring amity, which cannot but contribute to the general peace and progress of humanity."

Major J. B. M. Potter, paymaster U. S. Army, was ordered December 29 to pay the troops stationed at Santa Fe and Forts Wingate, Garland, and Union, N. M., to December 31, 1871, and Major Asa B. Carey the troops at Forts Craig, McRae, Selden, Cummings, Bayard, and Stanton, N. M., and Forts Blize and Quitman, Texas; Major R. A. Kinzie, the troops at Chicago and Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois; Major W. A. Rucker, the troops at the recruiting depot St. Louis, and Jefferson Barracks, Mo.; Major Nicholas Vedder, the troops at Leavenworth Arsenal, and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; Major E. H. Brooke, those at Forts Riley, Harker, Hays, and Wallace, Kansas, Lyon and Reynolds, C. T., and the stations of the Kansas Pacific Railroad to Denver City, C. T.; Major I. O. Dewey, the troops serving in Southeastern Kansas, and Forts Gibson, C. N., and Sill, I. T.; Major David Taylor, those at Forts Larned and Dodge, Kansas, and Camp Supply, I. T.

Captain W. M. Dunn, Jr., Second U. S. Artillery, aide-de-camp, was ordered December 29 to proceed to St. Louis, Mo., on business connected with these headquarters. On completion of this duty Captain Dunn will rejoin his station.

DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

Major-General W. S. Hancock: Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.

Major Rodney Smith, paymaster U. S. Army, was ordered December 28 to make payments to December 31, 1871, of the troops at Forts Snelling, Ripley, and Abercrombie, and Major J. W. Nichols of the troops at Fort Randall, Whetstone and Lower Brule Agencies, Dakota Territory.

Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Acting Assistant Surgeon J. C. Byrnes, U. S. Army, December 29, with permission to apply to headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of thirty days.

Seventeenth Infantry.—A General Court-martial is appointed to meet at Fort Rice, Dakota Territory, on Wednesday, January 17, 1872, with the following detail from the officers of this regiment: Colonel T. L. Crittenden, Captains J. H. Donovan, C. E. Clarke, and F. E. Grossman, First Lieutenants Henry Marcotte and T. G. Troxel, Second Lieutenants Josiah Chance, J. M. Burns, and Robert Cairns. First Lieutenant James Humbert, judge-advocate.

Twenty-second Infantry.—Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Captain C. W. Miner, December 27.

First Lieutenant Mott Hooton, Twenty-second Infantry, was relieved December 29 from duty as a member of the General Court-martial convened at Fort Columbus, New York harbor.

DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

Brigadier-General John Pope: Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.
Sixth Cavalry.—Captain S. M. Whitelaw is to leave St. Louis Arsenal, Mo., January 10, for Philadelphia, where it is expected that he will be stationed during the year to come.

Eighth Cavalry.—In pursuance of instructions from headquarters District of New Mexico, dated December 22, 1871, First Lieutenant A. P. Caraher, Eighth Cavalry, was, December 23, released from arrest and ordered by Colonel Gregg to resume command of Troop F, Eighth Cavalry, relieving First Lieutenant A. G. Henisee, Eighth Cavalry, who will turn over to Lieutenant Caraher all public property, funds, and records pertaining to said troop, for which he is responsible. On being relieved from the command, Lieutenant Henisee will report to his troop commander for duty. On the 23d of December Captain William Kelly was granted by special orders War Department leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of disability. From an order since issued from the headquarters Department of the Missouri, directing Private Richard Archer, Troop C, Eighth U. S. Cavalry, to proceed with the remains of Captain Kelly from Denver City, Colorado Territory, to Portland, Oregon, we learn that his illness has resulted in death. Captain Kelly entered the military service as a private in the Second U. S. Infantry December, 1848, and served two terms of enlistment in that regiment, and the Fourth, in the war with Mexico and on the Pacific coast. Discharged at Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory, December, 1853, he accepted an appointment as captain of the Washington Territory Volunteers, and was engaged in the Yakima Indian War of 1855-'56. In 1861 he was appointed first lieutenant of the Oregon Cavalry, promoted captain, and subsequently placed in command of a battalion, being while in this service engaged in action against the Klamath, Modoc, and Snake Indians, near Klamath Lakes, Oregon. He was appointed captain of the Eighth U. S. Cavalry July, 1866, and promoted major for gallantry in an Indian fight on the Malheur River, Oregon.

Third Infantry.—Captain R. P. Hughes was ordered December 23 to accompany Major David Taylor, paymaster U. S. Army, to Fort Dodge, Kansas, on public service, on completion of which he will rejoin his station.

Fifteenth Infantry.—Captain Horace Jewett was ordered December 23 to make the inspection at Fort Garland, Colorado Territory, previously prescribed for Major D. R. Cledenenn, Eighth U. S. Cavalry.

Fort Hays.—A correspondent writing from Kirkwood, St. Louis Co., Mo., December 25, 1871, says: "I have been much interested by General Custer's opening article in the January number of *The Galaxy*. He gives the best description of 'the Plains' so far as he has gone, that I have seen condensed into so few words. He is very correct in his sketch, and graphic to the life. He is a little in error, however, in the elevation given for Fort Hays above the sea—1,500 feet. The altitude by railroad levels from tide water is for the track of the Kansas Pacific Railway 974 feet at Fort Riley, and 1,893 feet at Fort Hays, 158 miles further west. He might have said 1,000 feet for Riley and 1,900 feet for Hays, as each is a little higher than the track."

Fort Lyon, Colorado.—From this post a correspondent writes: "We are in the midst of what are called the Plains. The term, however, is a misnomer. They are not strictly plains, but valleys slowly rising into hills, and interspersed with bluffs and cañons, presenting to the eye a widely rolling surface, very different from the flat prairies. Our location is on the north side of the Arkansas, about 130 miles east of the Rocky Mountains, some of which, over 15,000 feet high, are in full sight from elevated points near. The rivers here are fringed mostly with the cottonwood and a species of willow, together with a large variety of undergrowth. Evergreens are very seldom found. Some time ago, however, at a point about forty miles distant, a number of cedars having been discovered, a note was made of the circumstance in view of future use. An abundant supply was obtained in due time, and the chapel was beautifully decorated by the officers and ladies of the post, appropriate sentences lining the walls in suitable locations. After the usual services on Christmas day, preparations were made for a Christmas tree. Presents for the children had been procured from the East, and the tree was literally loaded down with gifts. At six o'clock all assembled, and in the midst of some remarks by the chaplain in reply to the query as to who Santa Claus was, a veritable representation of that ubiquitous individual, covered with furs, and with a 'jolly red nose' and marks upon his countenance suggesting an acquaintance with the interior of chimneys, appeared. He was greeted with shouts of laughter mingled with screams of terror from certain uninhibited juveniles whom he very soon conciliated, only, however, to a certain degree, as there was a very suspicious appearance of something indefinitely terrible about him, the effect of which no amount of candies or curious presents could entirely eradicate. After the distribution of the presents from the tree he disappeared and soon returned with his 'pack upon his back,' vastly increasing the merriment by the character of some of his presents—but we must close, earnestly hoping that the highly laudable suggestions conveyed by certain gifts of very small sized stockings and exceedingly diminutive red shoes may not be lost upon any who are 'wasting their sweetness on the desert air.'"

DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATE.

Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord: Headquarters, Omaha, Neb.

Brigadier-General C. C. Augur, late Commander of the Department of the Plate, was to receive a reception from the leading citizens of Omaha on the 27th of December. The following is the correspondence between the committee of citizens and General Augur:

OMAHA, December 18, 1871.

General C. C. Augur:
 Many citizens of Omaha desire, before your departure, to give some expression to their personal regard for yourself and their recognition of the pleasant relations which have subsisted between the military and the people of this city.

The undersigned, therefore, for themselves and in behalf of other citizens, request you to designate an evening when it will be convenient for yourself and family to attend a reception at Simpson's Hall.

T. E. Sickles, Ezra Millard, C. F. Manderson, E. Wakeley, G. H. Collins, St. A. D. Balcombe, L. M. Bennett, C. W. Mead, B. B. Wood, E. A. Allen, C. H. Byrne, C. B. Thomas, James W. Savage, J. A. Morrow, G. W. Frost, A. J. Poppleton, G. L. Miller, G. W. Doane, Herman Kountze, Geo. B. Lake, H. W. Yates, A. Saunders, C. S. Chase, and others.

OMAHA, NED., December 22, 1871.

GENTLEMEN: I have had the honor to receive from the hands of Hon. Judge Wakely and Hon. E. A. Allen your letter of the 18th instant, stating that many citizens of Omaha desire, before my departure, to give some expression of their personal regard for myself, and their recognition of the pleasant relations which have subsisted between the military and the people of this city, and asking me to designate an evening when it will be convenient for myself and family to attend a reception at Simpson's Hall.

Early next month will be five years since I arrived here and assumed command of the military department. Omaha was then an inconsiderable village, and almost unknown. It had not a single railroad connection with the East, and to the West only the Union Pacific Railroad, which was then but fairly begun. It is now a large and powerful city, and known over the whole world. It has five railroad lines of communication to the East and two to the West, besides the Union Pacific Railroad, which has long been completed.

At that time every Indian on your frontiers was in a state of hostility, except the small band of my friend Spotted Tail, and neither persons nor trains could move there without armed protection, and every working party on the railroad required troops for its protection. Now there is not an hostile Indian on your borders. This wonderful change in the condition of Indian affairs is due undoubtedly to the just and wise policy of the Government toward the Indians. But no Indian policy, however beneficent, can be of practical value unless the Indians choose to avail themselves of its provisions; and I think it will be conceded by all who know anything of the matter, that it is the military operations in this and other neighboring departments which have determined the Indians to accept the humane provisions of the Government.

It has been my purpose, and that of all the troops in this Department, to protect, and, as far as possible, to assist the settlers on the frontiers; and your letter furnished additional evidence to that already received from other sources, that our efforts have been appreciated. That they are so appreciated is to us all a matter of pride and gratification, and I avail myself with great pleasure of the opportunity offered in your kind invitation to meet my friends in Omaha, with whom I have had so long and agreeable associations; and I tender to them through you my thanks for their many acts of kindness and appreciation, and my wishes for their continued prosperity and happiness.

Wednesday evening of next week will suit me perfectly well for the purposes named, or, if this is not a convenient one for you, any other evening during that week. I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. C. AUGUR, Brigadier-General.

The Omaha *Herald* adds: "The only comment this expression invites, which has not been made elsewhere, is that it is no empty exchange of compliments, but rather a sincere expression of mutual esteem and good will, founded in a lasting and reciprocal esteem. General Augur, as we have before said, has been to this people something more than a mere soldier, charged with high and responsible military duties. Much as he has done in this capacity to protect our people and advance our interests in the face of savage warfare and atrocity, and with meagre forces to secure the commerce of a continent against interruption from Indian incursions, it is in our social life that he has won our especial esteem and attachment. No single man among us has done so much to impart dignity and tone to our public festivities and enjoyments, and it may be said with equal truth that none have done more to promote the joys and elevate the amenities of our private life. A religious man from conviction, General Augur will be nowhere more missed than at Trinity Church, where his influence, presence, and example have been alike powerful and conspicuous for good. It is in these more sacred and congenial relations that General Augur has won the universal repeat and regard of this people. Because better suited to his own tastes, the proposed banquet has given place to a reception. The occasion will be one of the rarest that ever occurred in the social history of Omaha. The preparations, we are glad to observe, are chiefly in the hands of our young men, to whom our society owes so much for the zest and tone which they impart to it, and whose names are so familiar to us all. The *file*, fashion, and worth of the town will be largely represented, of course, and none need fear that any possible contingency will be allowed to interfere with the elegant enjoyments of a reception which is intended to bestow well-won honor upon one of the best of men, and to manifest the universal respect of the people of Omaha for himself and family."

Second Cavalry.—Company K, Captain Egan, was removed in November last from Fort McPherson, Neb., to North Platte, Neb., the latter being a sub-post of the former.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE SOUTH.

Major-Gen. H. W. Halleck: Headquarters, Louisville, Ky.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

Brigadier-General A. H. Terry, commanding: Headquarters, Louisville, Kentucky.

Third Cavalry.—Under the proper head we publish the announcement, this week, of the marriage of Captain Thomas L. Brent, to Miss Flora Deshler, of Columbus, Ohio.

Second Infantry.—First Lieutenant James Miller was ordered December 12 to make a personal inspection of the wall erected around the National Cemetery at Corinth, Miss., and, upon completion of this duty, will return to his proper station, and submit report to headquarters Department of the South.

Sixteenth Infantry.—Lieutenant-Colonel James Van Voon, was ordered December 12 to take station at Nashville, Tennessee, assuming command of his regiment.

Major William P. Carlin, will proceed to take post at Jackson, Mississippi, assuming command of the troops there stationed.

Newport Barracks.—A General Court-martial was appointed to assemble at Newport Barracks, Kentucky, Tuesday, December 19, for the trial of Captain Thomas B. Hunt, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army. Detail for the court: Colonel Franklin F. Flint, Fourth Infantry; Colonel Samuel D. Sturgis, Seventh Cavalry; Lieutenant-Colonel John C. McFerran, deputy quartermaster-general; Major John M. Taylor, commissary of

subsistence; Major William P. Carlin, Sixteenth Infantry; Major Horatio G. Gibson, Third Artillery; Major Alexander Chambers, Fourth Infantry; Captain Frederick W. Benteen, Seventh Cavalry; Captain Myles W. Keogh, Seventh Cavalry. Major H. B. Burham, judge-advocate, is detailed as judge-advocate to the court.

A correspondent sends us the following account from a local paper of a ball given by the non-commissioned officers at the barracks, December 22. "The Old Chapel at Newport Barracks was decked on Friday evening last in military style, and in a manner which has seldom been excelled for general effect, in its way, in this country. Sergeant Silva, of Company A, had charge of the decorations, and, with a marvellous taste, called into requisition flag, musket, bayonet, sash and evergreen. The occasion was the non-commissioned officers' ball, given under the auspices of the following committee of arrangements and managers—Sergeant Silva, chief; Sergeants Welch, Brown and McGurk. Members—Sergeants Cook, Ganity, Fredeke, Smittle, Russel; Corporals Davis, Ryan, Tibbits, Oldham, Englehart, King, Rolkmasse and Gibson. Mr. and Mrs. General Burbank, General Gibson, commandant of the post, and lady, and the officers of the garrison were present as invited guests. The attendance was large and fashionable, and the men being in full uniform, the whole effect was striking. Music by the full post band, under Horn's efficient leadership, and an excellent supper, completed the pleasant entertainment. Corporal Gibson, who is a regular non-commissioned officer of Company A, is a son of General Gibson, seven years old. His presence in full regulation uniform, added *éclat* to the affair."

Fort Macon, Ga.—Joseph Kiner, a United States soldier, under sentence of five years' imprisonment at hard labor at Fort Macon, Georgia, attempted to escape from the Newport barracks, where he was temporarily confined, Sunday morning, December 31, and was shot dead by the sentry.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

Major-General George G. Meade: Headquarters, Philadelphia, Pa.

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

Brigadier-General Irvin McDowell: Headquarters, New York.

The following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East for the week ending January 2, 1872: First Lieutenant R. P. Strong, Fourth Artillery; Captain S. M. Benjamin, Second Artillery; Lieutenant D. S. Denison, Fifth Artillery; Captain William P. Huxford, U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant B. Wager, Second Artillery; Captain Edwin Pollock, Ninth Infantry.

First Artillery.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Wood, New York harbor, January 2, 1872. Detail for the court: Major John Hamilton, Captain A. M. Randol, First Lieutenants T. H. B. Counselman and I. T. Webster, Second Lieutenants Allyn Capron and John Pope, Jr.—all of the First Artillery. Second Lieutenant H. L. Harris, First Artillery, judge-advocate.

In compliance with instructions from the Adjutant-General of the Army, First Lieutenant R. G. Shaw, First Artillery, received orders December 29 to report in person without delay to Colonel J. C. Davis, Twenty-third Infantry, superintendent General Recruiting Service New York City, to conduct recruits to Fort Monroe, Va.

Fourth Artillery.—The leave of absence for seven days granted First Lieutenant R. P. Strong, Fourth Artillery, in Special Orders No. 188, headquarters Artillery School, was extended four days December 27.

Fifth Artillery.—Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Captain E. C. Bainbridge, Fifth Artillery, December 26.

Eighth Infantry.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at David's Island, New York harbor, December 28. Detail for the court: Captains H. M. Lazelle, G. M. Brayton, and W. S. Worth, Eighth Infantry; Assistant Surgeon W. E. Whitehead, U. S. Army; First Lieutenants A. W. Corliss, Bishop Aldrich (regimental quartermaster), and F. A. Whitney, Eighth Infantry. Second Lieutenant John O'Connell, Eighth Infantry, judge-advocate. From the history of this regiment, to which we referred last week, we take the following interesting memorandum relating to the arrest of Colonel C. A. Waite, U. S. A., and the officers of the U. S. Army, on duty at San Antonio, Texas, without troops. At Colonel Waite's quarters, Colonel Waite and Major Sprague only present.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, April 23, 1861.
 CAPTAIN WILCOX [with his sword, commanding Texas troops].—

Good morning, Colonel!

COLONEL WAITE.—Good morning, sir.

CAPT. WILCOX.—I have come to request you to go over to Major Macklin's office.

COL. WAITE.—For what purpose, sir?

CAPT. WILCOX.—As a prisoner of war!

COL. WAITE.—What authority have you?

CAPT. WILCOX.—I have authority from Major Macklin.

COL. WAITE.—Who is Major Macklin?

CAPT. WILCOX.—An officer of the Confederate States.

COL. WAITE.—I do not, sir, recognize any such authority. Have you the authority? I should like to see it.

Captain Wilcox then took from his pocket an order from Major Macklin, which Colonel Waite read, directing him (Wilcox) to proceed with his company and arrest the officers of the United States Government on duty in San Antonio, Texas.

COL. WAITE.—I protest against any such act, and will not obey the order except by force. Have I committed any offence?

To which Wilcox replied, "None that I know of."

"It is, then," said Colonel Waite, "a most unwarranted act of usurpation, and in violation of the modes and customs of civilized warfare, and a gross outrage upon my individual rights. I protest against it in the name of my country. Your authority I do not recognize, nor will I obey any order from you; nothing but the presence of a force greater than I can overcome will cause me to relinquish my personal freedom. There is nothing in history to equal this usurpation."

Thereupon Captain Wilcox said, "I have the force," and started for the public store-houses, and immediately returned with thirty-six footmen, Texas troops, armed with rifles and sabre-bayonets. The command was halted in front of Colonel Waite's quarters, when Captain Wilcox entered the house.

* Major Macklin was an officer of the U. S. Army, and chief paymaster Department of Texas, up to the breaking out of the rebellion.

Colonel Waite then walked to the door, when, upon looking out, he remarked, "Is that your guard, sir?"

"Yes, sir," replied Captain Wilcox.

"There are more men," remarked Colonel Waite, "than I can resist, and I again protest, in the name of my country, against this gross and unwarranted act of usurpation, and in violation of my personal rights. Where do you wish me to go, sir?"

"To the ordnance office, sir," said Captain Wilcox.

Colonel Waite then took his hat, and passed to the front of the guard, where arms were shouldered, and the crowd proceeded through the public street. As Colonel Waite was passing into the guardroom of the guard, Major Sprague remarked to Captain Wilcox, "I consider every word uttered by Colonel Waite in regard to this outrage." Major Sprague then joined Colonel Waite, and proceeded, amid a crowd of boys.

Arriving at the building where the public offices are, the command was halted, and Captain Wilcox ordered the other officers, viz., Major William A. Nichols, assistant adjutant-general; Major Daniel McClure, pay department; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel D. T. Chandler, Third Infantry; Captain K. Garrard, Second Cavalry; Surgeon E. A. Abadie; Assistant Surgeons J. R. Smith and E. F. Langworthy; Medical Department; Captain A. T. Lee; Lieutenants E. L. Hartz and E. W. H. Read, Eighth Infantry; Captain R. M. Potter, military storekeeper—who had been previously arrested, and were within the building in charge of a sentinel—to proceed. The officers in a body, in charge of the guard, were conducted to the office of Major Macklin. After a few moments' silence, Major Macklin said, "Colonel Waite, it becomes my duty to arrest you, and the other officers, as prisoners of war."

"By what authority, sir?"

"That is my business, sir, not yours," responded Major Macklin.

"But," said Colonel Waite, "I should like to know by what power I am deprived of my personal rights."

"I have the power from the President of the Confederate States," answered Major Macklin.

"Such authority I do not know, nor shall I obey it," said Colonel Waite. "Have I, or my officers, committed any offence? Did we not come here as friends, and have we not been such to all the interests of Texas? More than this, is there not an agreement with the Texan Commissioners, guaranteeing to the men and officers, my entire command, to go out of Texas un molested? That, sir, has been carried out faithfully on our part in every respect. By what right, then, am I to be restricted of my liberty? And by what authority am I and my officers made prisoners of war? I protest against it!"

"There is no use of protesting," said Major Macklin; "I do not wish to hear any protest; it is unnecessary; I have my orders."

"But I will protest," replied Colonel Waite. "In the name of my country and Government, I protest. I denounce it as an act of unwarranted usurpation, and against the customs of war, and in violation of my personal rights. I suppose you intend to regard the rights and customs of civilization? I know no war; we have been acting as friends; we are not here in a hostile attitude; we came into the country as friends, and are going out as such."

"Yes," responded Major Macklin, "I have my duty to perform, and shall do it."

"I repeat," said Colonel Waite, "it is gross, unheard of, unwarranted, and treacherous; nothing but the presence of a force requires me to listen to such measures, much more to obey them. Had I the means, it would be quite different; I would resist until death."

"I am aware of that," answered Major Macklin; "I have as much confidence in the courage of your officers as you have."

"What do you propose?" inquired Colonel Waite. "I am obliged to consider myself a prisoner, and should like to know the future."

"I have hero, sir," replied Major Macklin, "paroles (handing a manuscript to Colonel Waite) which the officers are at liberty to avail themselves of."

One of these was then read by Colonel Waite. "Such a paper I shall not sign," said Colonel Waite, indignantly; "it is highly objectionable, and I shall remain a prisoner."

"Very well," answered Major Macklin; "these paroles will not be presented to you again without your request it."

"What rank do you hold, sir?" inquired Colonel Waite.

"I am a major," replied Major Macklin.

"In the provisional or Regular Army?" inquired Colonel Waite.

"In the Regular Army, sir, of the Confederate States," responded the major.

A general conversation ensued among all parties, in which there was much angry excitement. Major Macklin improved the first opportunity to speak, and remarked that "he should send the officers to Victoria, one hundred miles distant to Colonel Van Dorn's headquarters," and desired to know how soon Colonel Waite could be ready, and suggested to-morrow—even intimated to-day; whereupon Colonel Waite, and the officers present said: "It was impossible to arrange their family affairs in so short a time." "How long a time?" asked he, "do you require—one, two, or three days?" "I presume we can have transportation?" suggested Colonel Waite. "There will be transportation for you, sir!" replied Major Macklin, with emphasis and anger. Again a general conversation took place; still much excitement was evinced among all parties. The inquiry was made of Major Macklin, if he had any discretion in the matter! He replied that he had none. The character of paroles and the rights of prisoners then became a general subject of conversation. Each officer present said he desired at least twenty-four hours to consider the subject, as it was of great importance.

Colonel Waite asked for one of the manuscript paroles, when Major Macklin, in a very offensive manner, declined, saying "he had use for them." This again caused much evident excited, and indignant feeling. "It is my desire," said Colonel Waite, "to put some officer in charge of our soldiers to be left here (the Eighth Infantry band, and clerks at headquarters) as prisoners, should I accept the parole, to attend to their personal rights, police, and comfort." "You need have no concern about that, sir," responded Major Macklin; "we will save you that trouble; we will attend to that; no officer will be permitted to have anything to do with them; you will not be allowed to give any orders here." Colonel Waite, in answer, said: "It is your wish and object to corrupt them, and to force them into your service, but they will not stay with you, they will desert." "Your language, sir," said Major Macklin, "is offensive; I cannot permit it." Colonel Waite replied: "The facts, sir, are doubtless offensive! My language is not intended to be offensive; I will talk, and I state the facts. I also claim the right to send an officer to my Government with sealed dispatches, on parole." "That, sir," replied Major Macklin, "will not be allowed." "But," said Colonel Waite, "can I not make my official report? To send an officer to headquarters, after important events, is the custom of all armies and troops among civilized people." "Perhaps it is, sir," replied Major Macklin. After a long conversation, and the excitement somewhat abated, Major Macklin was asked if he would grant to each officer twenty-four hours to consider upon the subject, when they would report to him in person their determination. To this he agreed, and permitted each officer to take one of the manuscript paroles for consideration. The guard at the door was then dismissed and the officers retired.

The non-commissioned officers and men of Company K, Eighth Infantry, stationed at David's Island, New York Harbor, writes a correspondent, celebrated both Christmas day and New Year's day in a very pleasant and social manner. In fact, remembering that these days come "but once a year," the company as a whole were determined that they should be made red-letter days in its chronicle; and as every one interested set about the work with hearty good will, a great success can be recorded. It is only "truth to tell" to say that the gallant captain of the company, Major Worth, is on all occasions the first to encourage in every way in his power whatever is likely to contribute to the comfort or pleasure of his men; and he it was who took the initiative in this instance. To Major Worth the company is indebted for its Christmas entertainment—an especially acceptable one in every respect. To begin with, there was a dinner good and substantial enough to satisfy even unreasonable people, were there any among us, and in the evening one and all had the opportunity of leading their partners through the "mazes of the merry dance," from "dewy eve" to "early morn," if we may be pardoned so great a liberty with rather a stock

quotation. The ball was in fact as successful in its way as the dinner; and as the different

Jigs, strathspeys, and reels
Put life and mirth in the heels

of the dancers, the musicians being meanwhile kept fully up to their work by judiciously administering drops of inspiration, the evening hours flew past only a great deal faster than was at all desirable under the circumstances. Dance succeeded dance with great rapidity, and if the fun never grew quite so fast and furious, as is recorded of a very different kind of dance in

"Alloway's auld haunted kirk."

It was at least kept up with great spirit and enjoyment from first to last. In short Company K's Christmas dinner and ball were decided successes in their way. At a Christmas day dinner it is not to be supposed that we trouble ourselves too much with toast-drinking; but there is one that we of Company K do not often forget; and that is the "memory of General Worth," a most gallant soldier, and the "father of the Eighth regiment." It is needless to say that it is one which all of us honor. We had also the opportunity of giving a hearty "three times three" for our own Captain Major Worth, whose presence amongst us on an occasion of this kind is always hailed with the greatest pleasure. But Company K had not only a "Merry Christmas," we had also a "Happy New Year;" and if we were not quite so "gay and festive," on the 1st or rather on the 2d of January as on the 25th of December, there was at least no lack of enjoyment in the one case any more than in the other. Again there was "eating and drinking, and frolic galore," a good dinner, a good supper, with something to sink them, and more music and dancing, and mirth and fun generally. In the one case as in the other, enjoyment was the order of the afternoon and evening, and that order was adhered to most conscientiously.

It only remains to say that for those "gay doings" the large mess-room of the company was very handsomely decorated with flags and evergreens, while the portraits of the late General Worth and Major Worth found central places on the walls. All hands, nearly, were engaged in this work, and it was well and willingly done. A complimentary word to First Sergeant John Brown, for his active share in the management of these Christmas and New Year's festivities, and we have done.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

Major-General J. M. Schofield: Headquarters, San Francisco, Cal.

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.

Lieutenant-Colonel Geo. Crook: Headquarters, Prescott, A. T.

By way of San Francisco, December 31, we learn that the trial of 107 citizens and Indians, for killing Apache Indians on the Camp Grant Reservation, has developed the fact that the Indians were not on the reservation, and that though fed by the Government, they were engaged in continual depredations against the white settlers. A verdict of acquittal is fully anticipated.

A despatch from San Bernardino says: "The Apaches have left the Verde and Camp McDowell reservations and demand camp at old Fort Reno. You may look for an Indian war in Arizona. The people have been too much oppressed to listen now to any Colyer policy."

Major-General Schofield's report on the present condition of military and Indian affairs in Arizona says that state of war with the Apaches has existed for many years; the troops have been constantly in the field, incurring extraordinary losses and expenses; the remoteness of the scene of hostilities from the sources of supply necessitates very large expenses for transportation. The necessary result is, that whether the troops in Arizona are few or many their cost per man must be much greater than the average of the entire Army, which disproportion is still more increased by the cost of constant active operations against the Indians. During the years 1869 and 1870 a large proportion of the Apaches were gathered on temporary reservations near certain designated military posts, but some thousands still remained at large and committed depredations whenever opportunity offered. The belief that some of these depredations were committed by Indians from these reservations was given as an excuse for acts on the part of some of the people of Arizona no less barbarous than those which characterize the Apaches. These Indians on the reservations paid for a large part of the rations issued to them by supplying hay and wood to the military posts at much less cost to the Government than that paid to the contractors. It has been suggested that this may explain the Camp Grant massacre. The meager appropriation for the Quartermaster's Department for the years 1870 and 1871 rendered necessary a great reduction of expenses in Arizona. A portion of the troops were withdrawn, unnecessary posts were abandoned, expensive depots that could be dispensed with were broken up and economy practiced.

Immediately following this reduction reports of Indian outrages in Arizona were multiplied and loud protests arose from the people of that Territory, accompanied by denunciations of the department commander (General Stoneman). Then followed the Camp Grant massacre, which General Schofield reports in some detail. A few days later news was received from Camp Apache, near by, that the Apaches had broken out in open war. The vigorous measures promptly adopted by the department commander, General Crook, were sufficient to deter the large majority of the Indians from engaging in war, while the efforts of the Indian Peace Commissioner and officers of the Army to convince the Indians of the good faith and humane purpose of the Government seem to have been successful. It is reported that nearly all the Arizona Apaches have gone upon the reservations designated, and hopes are entertained of a lasting peace.

Twenty-first Infantry.—From Boston a correspondent of the New York Times sends the following letter from one of the survivors of the Loring massacre, giving an account of that massacre, and reflecting on the conduct of one of the officers of this regiment with reference to

it. We publish the letter, as it bears a responsible signature, but shall be glad to publish any correction of its statements:

EBENBURG, A. T., December 9, 1871.

William G. Peckham, Esq., Trinity Building, New York.

DEAR SIR: In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of November 16, 1871, I am pleased to be able to give you an account of the death of my friend Loring, who was well known to me and whose untimely death is deeply regretted by me. We left Fort Whipple, near Prescott, Arizona Territory, on Saturday, November 4, in the best of health and spirits. To be sure, the stage was rather crowded, but being all of such good temper we had a real nice time, Loring being the most lively of us all, anticipating a speedy return to his friends East. Well, he retained his inside seat until we reached Wickenburg, on Sunday morning, November 5, 1871, when, after leaving there, he preferred to have an outside seat, to which I most decidedly objected; but he insisted on being outside for a short time. I had two revolvers and he had none; in fact, no arms whatever. He rejected my offer of a revolver, saying at the same time, "My dear Kruger, we are now comparatively safe. I have travelled with Lieutenant Wheeler for nearly eight months, and have never seen an Indian." Well, we rolled on until about 11 A. M., when the fatal attack was made. The first warning I had was the warning cry of the driver, who cried "Apaches! Apaches!" At the same moment the Indians fired the first volley, killing poor Loring, the driver, and the other outside passenger, a Mr. Adams. They killed also the off lead horse and wounded the other lead horse. The horses, very much frightened, then ran forward about twenty yards, when they came to a sudden stop. At the same time Loring fell off the stage and so the other passenger. At the same moment the Indians fired the second volley from three sides—the both sides and rear—not more than four or five yards from the stage, killing Mr. Shoholm, one of the inside passengers, and wounding Miss Shepard, myself and a Mr. Salmon, of Lieutenant Wheeler's party. The latter one was mortally wounded and fell out of the stage, and crawled away, but was finally captured by the Indians, scalped and otherwise mutilated. The only one not then wounded was Mr. Hammett, of Lieutenant Wheeler's party. Both he and myself commenced immediately firing. Each one fired six shots. Not having any more ammunition I ceased firing. The Indians then disappeared behind the bushes.

But what a terrible spectacle it was to see the six dead bodies in plain sight! Loring was lying right under my very eyes, not yet dead, but suffering, apparently, terribly. He was shot through his left temple, his right eye, and his lungs. He suffered for about four minutes, but I am positive that he died before I made my escape. Knowing that it would be useless to attempt to escape until the Indians would come back to plunder the stage, I remained perfectly quiet, having in the mean time ascertained that Miss Shepard was yet alive, but badly wounded. She succeeded in getting a loaded revolver from one of the killed passenger, which she gave to me. I then told her to keep cool and be ready to run as soon as I could give the signal. Well, in about six minutes of terrible suspense I saw the Indians slowly creeping toward the stage. I counted and saw plainly fifteen Indians all dressed in blue soldiers' trowsers. When they came within five yards of the stage I jumped up, yelled and fired at them. The woman, at the same time, yelled also, and we succeeded admirably in driving them off for the time being, and got time to leave the stage. Before I left the stage I cried out as loud as I possibly could if any one was left alive, but only Mr. Adams answered; but he was mortally wounded and could not even move his hands or feet, so I had to leave him to his fate. He was afterward found with his throat cut and otherwise mutilated. The Indians afterward followed me for about five miles, and I had a running fight with them until I fell in with the "buck-board." I had to carry the wounded woman for over two miles in my left arm. I myself received one shot through the right armpit, coming out on the shoulder, and two shots in my back. The woman also had three shots, one dangerous.

How I could escape with my life, and be able to save the life of Miss Shepard, is more than I can account for. That I left my man with the Indians, there is no doubt, because two Indians died from gun-shot wounds at Camp Date Creek Reservation; but the commanding officer refused to have the thing investigated, for fear he would find sufficient evidence that they were his pets—that is, Camp Date Creek Indians. At all events, there is no doubt whatever that the outrage was committed by Indians, and that by Camp Date Creek Indians, those so-called friendly Indians whom Uncle Sam feeds.

After the news reached Wickenburg, we were brought to Wickenburg after sixteen hours of terrible suffering and agony. I stopped at the place of attack and closed the eyes of all my poor travelling companions. Loring, poor boy, was not mutilated, but looked calm and peaceful, excepting his fearful wounds through the head. He wore soldiers' clothing. His hat is in my possession now; if you wish it you can have it. Loring and four of his companions in fate were decently buried the next day, Monday, November 6, 1871, in nice collins. I saw them buried. The other man who got scalped was buried on the road. Mr. Sexton, of the Vulture Mill, at Wickenburg, attended to the funeral. Rest assured that our friend Loring had a decent funeral. Peace be with his ashes. I forwarded everything belonging to Loring to Lieutenant Wheeler, excepting his hat, which you can have should you desire it. There are four bullet-holes through the same. What Loring lost I don't profess to know. I know, I lost everything but my life. The Indians got, to my certain knowledge, about twenty-five thousand dollars—nine thousand dollars belonging to me and Miss Shepard.

There is not a particle of doubt in my mind that the attacking party were Indians. I have known Indians since the last five years, and cannot be mistaken; besides, all indications show that they were Indians. Every citizen here will swear to it, because these citizens tracked the Indians from the place of outrage to Camp Date Creek. But the commanding officer, Captain O'Birne, Twenty-first Infantry, not only allowed the Indians to go unpunished, but also refused me, Miss Shepard, the two surviving cripples, shelter. Yes, sir; he ordered us off his reservation, and I wish to heaven you would publish this act of inhumanity in your New York papers. Please show this letter to Mr. Loring, Boston, Mass., who wrote to me the same time you did. I am, sir, very truly yours,

WILLIAM KNUOM.

Clerk to Captain C. W. Foster, A. M., U. S. A.

HIS old Army comrades will regret to hear of the death on the 1st of January, of General Craig W. Wadsworth, whose service on the staff of General Buford and of General Reynolds during the war, made him so widely and favorably known. He was a son of the late General James S. Wadsworth, and died at the family homestead near Avon, N. Y., where he has occupied himself since the war with agriculture and the rearing of thoroughbred stock. His age was thirty years. Another ex-officer, Major Benjamin F. Chamberlain, died at Newark, N. J., December 26. He was educated at West Point, receiving a cadet appointment in 1849 from President Polk. He served during the war in the Seventy-first regiment, N. Y. Volunteers.

WITHIN the past two months the last regiments of the British army in Canada have embarked for England, and left that colony for the first time in its history entirely without home protection. In anticipation of this contingency the Canadians have been busy organizing an independent military force. This now consists of twenty-seven troops of cavalry, ten field and seventy garrison batteries of artillery, four companies of engineers, 639 companies of rifles and three marine companies, numbering in all about forty-five thousand officers and men, while the reserve militia numbers 612,500. Schools of military instruction were founded in 1863, which have turned out 5,100 cadets, all of whom have passed their examination before boards composed of officers of the regular army, 1,200 having taken first-class and 3,000 second-class certificates.

THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

CAPTAIN Edmund Calhoun assumed the duties of executive officer of Charlestown Navy-yard December 29. The *Severn* was docked December 29 for examination and repairs. The *Wyoming* was removed from the dry dock December 28.

It is understood that as soon as it was ascertained that Catacay had been definitely recalled, the President directed that the Grand Duke be invited to revisit Washington. The invitation was necessarily declined from exigencies connected with the service of the Russian squadron, in which the Grand Duke is a lieutenant.

THE *Portsmouth* is fitting out at the Brooklyn yard and will probably be ready for sea about April. The *Hartford*, at the Brooklyn yard, is undergoing a thorough reconstruction and will be ready for commission in about eight months. The *Canandaigua* is ready for commission, and her officers reported at the Brooklyn yard January 3.

THE *Congress*, second rate (16), sailed from the Brooklyn Navy-yard, January 3, for the Gulf, under sealed orders. Her mission doubtless has reference to the blockade of the *Hornet* at Port au Prince and it is expected that she will release that vessel, and bring her to New York. It is reported that several months ago the English merchant vessel *Berwick*, in the harbor of Port au Prince, was boarded by the officer of the Spanish war steamer *Churruca* and her captain subjected to indignities too serious to be forgotten. The English government at once demanded of Spain ample apology, which, according to official reports received at Washington, has been given. The commander of the *Churruca* has been ordered home, and the Spanish consul under whose direction the boarding was done, has been dismissed. The Haytien government now also makes a demand upon Spain for reparation of the insult offered the British vessel in her waters, and this too, it is anticipated in diplomatic circles, will be speedily forthcoming.

A PRESS despatch from Washington January 3 reports that private advices have been received from the United States vessels in the harbor of Havana by the families of some of the officers, which report that all on board are well, and as happy as circumstances admit. A great deal of ceremonial courtesy has been shown to the officers of the *Kansas*, *Nipsic*, and *Terror*, by the officials and leading residents of Havana, but these latter make but little effort to conceal the fact that the attentions are ceremonial and nothing more. The writers, indeed, have satisfied themselves that in the circles which give tone to public opinion there is not only actual ill-will towards the United States, but a belief that the power to give effective expression to the Spanish hatred of Americans is as strong as the sentiment itself. The Havano do not believe that the steady policy of the American Government towards the Cuban insurrection results from the adhesion to modern principles of non-intervention and neutrality, but is the offspring of its fears; that the sympathies of the people of the United States are larger than the ability of their Government to give them a practical direction. From the tone of the correspondence, it is certain that, if the questions between Spain and the United States were left to the naval representatives of the two Powers at Havana, neither would be long in finding their way to a sharp solution. But the questions are yet controlled by diplomacy; and the diplomatic relations of the two countries are still excellent in their friendliness and cordiality.

MR. Francis Dair, owner of the steamer *Florida*, writes a letter to the Secretary of the Navy, in which after referring to the reported capture of the *Florida*, he says: "I shall not regret the loss of the ship if the calamity will arouse my countrymen from their apathy towards the continuous arrogance, insult, and atrocities of the irresponsible mob of Havana, and force the administration to concede to the Cubans belligerent rights. But no vengeance, however swift and ample, can ever atone for the sacrifice of the lives of my officers and crew, if they are at present subject to Spanish mercy. I again call upon you, as the public servant specially entrusted by your countrymen with the protection of American shipping interests abroad, if the report be true, to save the lives at least of my people, if not too late. I forward by mail a slip from Spanish papers and translations threatening the capture of the *Florida*, despite your promises of protection as contained in your letter to me of November 23, which copies, with the report of the capture, will justify my apprehensions." A despatch from Havana December 30 denies the report that the steamer *Florida* had been captured by the Spanish man-of-war *Vasco Nunez de Balboa*. After the *Florida* had sailed from St. Thomas, the Spanish man-of-war followed, and fired a blank cartridge at her. The *Florida* continued on her way, and the man-of-war then fired a ball cartridge. The *Florida* was then stopped, and a boat sent from the *Vasco Nunez de Balboa*, the officer in charge having orders to examine the *Florida's* papers. As no fault was found with the papers the *Florida* was allowed to proceed on her voyage. The *Vasco Nunez de Balboa* has since returned to Cuba.

A LETTER from Funchal, Madeira, December 5, 1871, announces the arrival there of the U. S. steamer *Wabash* (45), bearing the flag of Rear Admiral James Alden, United States Navy, and having as passengers General W. T. Sherman, Colonel James Audeireid and Lieutenant Fred D. Grant. The *Wabash* arrived, the letter reports, "at twelve M., seventeen days from New York, after a pleasant passage, not, however, for Colonel Audeireid and 'Prince Fred' as they delivered themselves up to King Neptune before Sandy Hook had fairly died out of sight. They recovered, however, in time to

be introduced to the officers of the ship, as that was made our first Sunday's duty by the captain, all the officers being called on the quarter deck. This took about fifteen minutes after which General Sherman made some remarks wishing us 'all a pleasant cruise and a safe return to the loved ones at home.' We find in port Her Britannic Majesty's ships *Trafalgar* and *Bellerophon*, of the renowned Channel fleet, which are here waiting the arrival of the remaining vessels of the fleet, now daily expected. We had but one accident during our trip from New York, and that happened day before yesterday, during exercise. Henry Shailler, captain of the maintop, fell from the maintopgallant yard, a distance of 150 feet, into the water. The lifeboat was manned, immediately lowered, and the man picked up unhurt. He received a severe ducking. I may here state that this man was one of the four who were saved from the ill-fated *Oneda*. The officers of Her Britannic Majesty's ship *Trafalgar* give a grand ball on shore this evening, and a number of our officers have been invited and are now preparing to attend. We leave here probably on Friday next for Gibraltar, where we expect to arrive after a passage of five days. Rumor has it that General Sherman and party will leave us at Gibraltar, travel overland, and rejoin us at Villa Franca, our next stopping place after leaving Gibraltar. We have one of the finest ships in the United States Navy. She acted nobly during the passage, attaining a speed of ten knots under sail alone. As to the officers they are the pride of the Navy, and their reputation at the department perfect. Thanksgiving day was duly observed on board, divine service being held by the chaplain, after which the officers returned to their different messes to have dinner; but I believe none sat down to a fine roast turkey and cranberry sauce, for the good reason there was none on board. I forgot to state that General Sherman and party all went on shore this morning and enjoyed a fine ride on horseback. They returned to the ship about an hour ago." A later despatch reports the arrival of the *Wabash* at Villa Franca (Nice), on Friday night December 29. General Sherman had previously landed at Gibraltar.

THE San Francisco *Bulletin* of December 13 gives us a description of the present condition of things at Mare Island, where there are now eight or nine war vessels, varying much in size and armament, but more in preservation and decay. The iron ships *Comanche* and *Monadnock* lie side by side anchored near the docks, and nearly opposite the gun park. The *Comanche* has been in no service. Since her building she has only steamed around the bay two or three times. Thus far she has only benefitted a part of the Government—those mechanics who wrought the iron, the men who shipped her round the Horn, the parties who raised her from the sunken *Aquila* and adjusted her component parts, and the keepers who inspect her decks. Not so with the *Monadnock*. She was in several severe engagements during the Rebellion; marks of iron hail have deeply indented her plated armor; shot buried themselves in the unyielding plate, but failed to penetrate. Both ships are roofed to protect them from the weather. Each ship, as well as each of the other vessels here out of commission, has two watchmen. The men are permitted to have no fire on board, necessitating them to procure their victuals on shore. The *Jamestown*—the old and time-honored *Jamestown*—lately put out of commission, is dismantled, and lies idly at the dock. She has been inspected. Her timbers are some of them rotten, and quite a number of planks will have to be supplied, as their decayed state renders them useless. The *Dacotah* and *Nyack* are hauled out in shoal water. They are stripped to their decks. The *Nyack* has her machinery in the hull and going to ruin in rust. Everything is open and exposed to weather and water. She has every facility to decompose and resolve herself to primary elements. The *Dacotah* was last year made ready for repairs, the order was countermanded, and the vessel hauled where she now lies and rested so as to balance across a high ridge. In consequence she is parted in the middle. The seams between the planks gape wide and freely and let the water enter the vessel. The boilers and machinery are taken to pieces, and lie in unrighteous confusion about the hull. There are few if any of the planks in the hull sound; the timbers of many of them are so decayed that they are unfit for further use. A few more years' exposure and the *Dacotah* and appurtenances will be of the things that were, but are no more. The tug *Monterey* lies alongside of the two ships last named for repairs—waiting for repairs is not a new thing for the *Monterey*; she has belonged to the Government for seven years, and has been on the list, "Out of commission for repairs," almost constantly. Probably she will be ready to tow the *Nyack* and *Dacotah* out of the harbor when they are repaired and in commission; but to enable her to do so the winds and the waves will have to lie together asleep. The old receiving ship *Independence*, with her new lustre on her seamy sides, raises her head in pride. She beckons the incoming tide, and nods a farewell to the retiring wave. Her days of usefulness are not nearly passed. The *Cyane* has been anchored in the stream, but having sprung a leak, she is waiting to be ordered on the dry dock. When that will be, deponent saith not. The *Vanderbilt* floats in the stream, with all the upper masts removed. The most prominent objects above deck are the smoke-stacks. The yellow paint is peeling off in blotches and patches, so that a man viewing the vessel's worn and wasting habiliments is reminded of a contraband in tattered pants and seedy coat, chained to the block, and grinning at the coming man who is to put a price on his head and a coat on his back; and so she rattles her shackles and grins, and will until Government lays down a sestosce for transmutation. The *Lackwanna* is undergoing thorough repairs. She has been on the dry dock and stripped to the keel, and supplied with new timbers and plank for her hull. This work is now done, and she is removed from the docks and the riggers are set to work furnishing new rigging. When this work is finished, her guns and armament will be put aboard, and she will be pronounced as staunch

and firm as the day she was launched. If she be not, it will be the fault of those who have repaired her, for Uncle Sam has paid amply to have complete timbers, hull, and rigging, and all. The ship *Kearsarge*, that sent the *Alabama* to inspect the Atlantic bed "where corals deepest lie," is now on the ways. Her sheeting and planking will be taken off, she will be stripped from stem to stern, and all rottenness removed.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

DECEMBER 27.—Lieutenant-Commander J. B. Coglian, to the Hydrographic Office on the 10th of January.

Lieutenant George A. Bicknell, to the *Worcester*.

DECEMBER 28.—Lieutenant-Commander G. C. Schulze, to ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, New York, on the 2d of January.

DECEMBER 29.—Commander A. E. K. Benham, to command the *Terror*, per steamer of the 4th of January.

Paymaster F. H. Arms, to the *Terror* per steamer of the 4th of January.

DECEMBER 30.—First Assistant Engineer J. H. Morrison and Second Assistant Engineers A. H. Price and James P. Mickley, to the *Terror*.

JANUARY 2.—Master T. W. Nichols, to the *Terror* per steamer of the 11th inst.

DETACHED.

DECEMBER 27.—Lieutenant-Commander George Dewey, from the Navy-yard, Boston, and ordered to duty at the torpedo station, Newport, R. I.

Lieutenant H. E. Nichols, from the *Worcester*, and granted leave for three months.

DECEMBER 28.—Lieutenant M. B. Field from ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, New York, and granted three months' leave.

DECEMBER 29.—Commander A. W. Weaver, from the command of the *Terror*, and ordered to proceed home and wait orders.

Paymaster J. H. Bulkley, from the *Terror*, and ordered to settle accounts.

DECEMBER 30.—Chief Engineer J. B. Kimball, from the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., and ordered to the *Terror*.

First Assistant Engineer Enos M. Lewis, and Second Assistant Engineer Jabez Burchard, from the Naval Station at League Island, and ordered to the *Terror*.

JANUARY 2.—Assistant Surgeon J. E. Gillespie, from the Naval Rendezvous at Boston, and ordered to the *Terror* per steamer of the 11th inst.

Lieutenant T. G. Grove, Assistant Surgeon T. D. Myers, Chief Engineer Wm. G. Bushler, First Assistant Engineers A. A. Abe and John A. Scott, Second Assistant Engineers J. H. Perry and Ralph Aston, from the *Terror*, and ordered to return home.

RESIGNED.

DECEMBER 28.—Lieutenant-Commanders Simeon P. Gillett, G. V. Menzies, and Ernest J. Dichman.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, December 1, 1871.

The regulations for the government of the United States Navy, established March 31, 1870, are hereby amended, so as to conform to section 5 of the act making appropriations for the naval service, approved March 3, 1861.

Paragraph 633 will read as follows:

Medical, pay, engineer officers, and others not of the line and not classified by law, are placed in the Navy Register in the following order: Medical directors, medical inspectors, surgeons, passed assistant surgeons, assistant surgeons, pay directors, pay inspectors, paymasters, passed assistant paymasters, assistant paymasters, chief engineers, first assistant engineers, second assistant engineers, chaplains, professors of mathematics, carpenters, tailors, secretaries, clerks.

Paragraph 635 will read as follows:

The relative rank between line officers and medical, pay, engineer, and other officers not of the line, is regulated by law as follows:

Relative rank of Captain.—Medical directors, pay directors, chief engineers—first 10, naval constructors—first 2, chaplains—first 4.

Relative rank of Commander.—Medical inspectors, pay inspectors, chief engineers—next 15, naval constructors—next 3, chaplains—next 7.

Relative rank of Lieutenant-Commander or Lieutenant.—Surgeons, paymasters, chief engineers—next 45, naval constructors—remainder, chaplains—next 7.

Relative rank of Lieutenant or Master.—Passed assistant surgeons, passed assistant paymasters, first assistant engineers, assistant naval constructors.

Relative rank of Master or Ensign.—Assistant surgeons, assistants, paymasters, second assistant engineers.

Relative rank of Lieutenant.—Secretary to the admiral, secretary to the vice-admiral.

Paragraph 878 is annulled, its provisions having been changed by section 8 of the act of July 15, 1870.

GEORGE M. ROBESON, Secretary of the Navy.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, December 29, 1871.

The officers of the Navy and Marine Corps will assemble at the Navy Department at 11 o'clock a. m. on Monday, January 1, 1872, in full-dress uniform for occasions of special ceremony, to pay their respects to the President of the United States at 12 o'clock.

They will form in the Navy Department by corps, according to the order of rank in each.

The whole body will be formed under the direction of the senior officer present, and will visit the President in the following order:

I. The admiral and vice-admiral.

II. The chiefs of the various bureaus representing the Navy Department, followed by the several corps in the order in which they stand upon the Navy Register.

The senior officer present of each corps will present the officers thereof to the President.

GEORGE M. ROBESON, Secretary of the Navy.

A COMMUNICATION has been received at the Treasury Department at Washington from the counsel for the defendant in the celebrated Tichborne case, in which the Secretary is asked to furnish him all the information in his possession concerning the whereabouts, in certain months in 1854, of all registered vessels of the United States bearing the name of *Osprey*. It will be recollect that in the evidence in this case, it was shown that the contestant for the Tichborne estates was a passenger on an English vessel named the *Bella*, which founded off Rio, on the South American coast, and that he was picked up among others by the captain of an American vessel named the *Osprey*.

LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

THE following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington:

ARMY.

DECEMBER 29.

Belmont, Captain.	Fly, B. F., Major.
Child, Arthur, Captain.	Gilchrist, Geo., Captain.
Cluseret, General.	MacMahon, M. B., Colonel.
Davis, James, Captain.	Penfield, Geo. W., Captain.
Dombrowski, General.	Worblowski, General.

JANUARY 2.

Claussen, P. J., Colonel.	Farr, Wm., Captain.
Dresser, G. W., Captain.	O'Donnell, F., Captain.
Donte, J. T., Captain.	Williams, C., Captain.

THE MODERN MARITIME LAW.—I.

SINCE the middle of the eighteenth century many statesmen and publicists have exerted themselves to bring about a reform in the maritime law of nations, and at the close of the same century their efforts promised for a time really to be crowned with success. The two armed-neutrality treaties of 1780 and 1800 had settled a series of important principles in relation to contraband of war, the right of search and blockade, and the carrying trade of neutrals, all of which was then justly considered the foundation for a new maritime code more in harmony with the spirit of the modern era. Though these treaties said nothing about the abolition of privateering, a reform in the prize courts, or in reference to the exemption of enemy's property from capture at sea, they nevertheless afforded a starting point for a further advance in the same direction. These sanguine expectations were, however, doomed to disappointment. The weak spot in the treaties was, that the leading naval power, Great Britain, refused to accede to them, and not only adhered to the medieval principles of the *Consulat del Mare*, but used her influence so effectively against the proposed changes, that they were tacitly abandoned several years later by the powerful coalition of nations which had been formed in favor of their general adoption.

After that period the maritime law of nations rather retrograded than advanced. During the wars which England carried on in the early part of the nineteenth century, she made a most unscrupulous and despotic use of her naval supremacy, to paralyze and ruin the trade of neutrals. This was the golden era of paper blockades, of arbitrary definitions of what constitutes contraband of war, and of the destruction of the neutral carrying trade. The course then pursued by England was founded not upon the law of nations, but upon her own commercial interests, and the language employed by James Marriot, one of the British prize judges, in a decision rendered by him during the last years of the eighteenth century against a neutral Dutch vessel, strikingly illustrates this arrogant spirit. "You are blockaded," he said, "when you are seized. Great Britain, by her insular position, closes all the ports of Spain and France. It is her right to turn to advantage the favorable position assigned to her by Providence."

This unsatisfactory state of things slightly improved on the breaking out of the Crimean war. The Maritime Declaration agreed on at Paris, April 16, 1856, which was in all essentials accepted by England, and practically observed by her during the entire Russian campaign, marked, so far as it went, a gratifying progress. And yet, the Paris Declaration of 1856, when compared with the armed neutrality treaties of 1780 and 1800, is in reality retrogressive, as will more fully appear when we shall have explained the changes temporarily effected by the Crimean war.

When France and England had decided on hostilities against Russia, it became of course their policy to secure the friendly neutrality of the larger maritime States. Of special importance it was deemed that the United States should not permit Russia to avail herself of their merchant vessels and experienced sailors. For these reasons the allies agreed that the trade of neutrals was to be respected; but it required, nevertheless, protracted and delicate negotiations before the Governments could agree on the exact principles which they were to adopt. A memoir which Drouyn de Lhuys, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, who took a leading part in the negotiations, read in April, 1868, on the subject, before the Academy of France, reveals some curious circumstances connected with it. This memoir may be found among the documents attached to the "Report on a Reform in Neutrality Legislation," submitted to the Imperial Parliament by a royal commission expressly appointed in the Commons to investigate the whole question.

Drouyn de Lhuys, it appears, found no little difficulty to induce Lord Clarendon, the British Minister of Foreign Affairs, to co-operate with France on the doctrine of neutral rights. Lord Clarendon was quite ready to abandon privateering, but not the right to capture enemy's property in neutral ships. On this point the negotiations gradually assumed an acrimonious tone. Drouyn de Lhuys, in his interviews with Lord Cowley, the British Ambassador at Paris, laid great stress on the fact that France was not in a position to re-adopt a principle which she had abandoned long ago. He pointed out how unlikely such a policy would be to secure the desired friendly neutrality, and insisted that England should conform on this point her practice to that of France. A difference, he urged, between the allies—in other respects in perfect accord—might give rise to an unfavorable construction abroad, and even lead to serious misunderstandings between their respective naval commanders. At last a compromise was effected which met

the views of Lord Clarendon. The allied governments agreed to issue no letters of marque, and to respect the rights of neutrals during the duration of the war. Both, however, expressly reserved to themselves full liberty of action thereafter.

In a rose-colored despatch, addressed to the French Ambassador at London after this compromise had been effected, Drouyn de Lhuys took a decidedly sanguine view of the understanding thus arrived at in relation to the maritime law of nations. He pretended to perceive in it "the dawn" of a new day, when full justice would be done to neutrals. But if, as it appears from later official revelations, he alluded to the Paris Declaration of April 16, 1856, the results can hardly be said to have realized those ideas of justice which obtain among civilized nations, for they proved anything rather than the "dawn" which heralds a better day.

The Paris Declaration of April 16, 1856, which was adopted by no less than seven States, contained four articles. The first three declared the abolition of privateering and the exemption of enemy's property in neutral ships, as well as that of neutral property in enemy's ships. The fourth and last article, to which we shall hereafter return at greater length, literally reads: "blockades, to be binding, must be effective. . . . They must be supported by a sufficient power to prevent access to the enemy's coast." To these four points all the maritime powers, excepting Spain, Mexico, and the United States, agreed. On the 28th of July, 1856, Mr. Marcy, our Secretary of State, in a despatch to M. de Sartiges, the French ambassador at Washington, fully explained the reasons for which the American Government declined to become a party to the Paris Declaration.

He showed that, in not recognizing at the time the principle that private property was sacred on sea as well as on land, it had gone only half-way. The United States could consequently only consent to abolish privateering if the other principle was also adopted; otherwise, only those powers which possessed large navies would be benefited, and placed in a position to monopolize the ocean to the serious detriment of the commercial interests of weaker nations, whose ships would be captured and destroyed. And Mr. Marcy's views were perfectly correct. The abolition of privateering, which aims, apart from the warfare of the regular navies, to extort a compromise or submission by a destruction of the enemy's trade and shipping, was obviously to the advantage of the larger naval powers. The smaller, often with an extensive trade and merchant marine but an insignificant navy, would thus be in a measure deprived of all means to cripple the commerce of those nations that have a numerous navy. For instance, in the late Franco-German war, the powerful navy of France could have utterly destroyed the merchant marine of Germany, while the latter, having relinquished the right to issue letters of marque, would not have been able to make up for their inferiority by privateering.

Such were the considerations which induced our Government to qualify its assent to the Paris Declaration with the demand that its third article should be extended so as to exempt all private property, without distinction, from capture on the high seas. The principle contended for by the United States was nothing new, for it had already found advocates in France, where the Abbé de Mably (1744) and Linguel (1779) maintained that humanity and civilization both required the inviolability of private property at sea in time of war. In the treaty made between the two philosophers, Frederick the Great of Prussia and Dr. Benjamin Franklin, this theory received its first official sanction, although it was not preserved in the subsequent Russo-American treaties of 1799 and 1828, where the article (23), which the American philosopher used to call one of his "Quaker notions," does not appear.

The same principle was also recognized by the French National Assembly and then again by Napoleon Bonaparte, who went so far as to treat its disregard by England as an offence against the law of nations, and cited it among the reasons for his Berlin Decree of November 21, 1806. In 1823 and 1848 the United States and the Federal Diet of Germany once more discussed the expediency of adopting the principle. In 1856, the cabinets of Berlin and St. Petersburg adopted the American view of the question. Even the French government confidentially intimated that it was ready to subscribe to the doctrine of exempting enemy's private property from capture on the high seas, but its relations with England would not admit of an official recognition at the time. In the British Parliament and Press a great clamor was, however, raised over the American despatch. Journalistic quills and Parliamentary orators sounded the alarm, and asserted that the proposed abandonment of the pillage system, hitherto practiced by England in relation to enemy's private property, was an insidious blow against her naval supremacy. To confirm home st

John Bull in his belief that it was right, a philanthropic excuse for the practice was invented. Its author, Lord Palmerston, pretended that the principle was desirable from a humane standpoint, inasmuch as it tended to shorten wars. This sophism was believed, or at least, seems to have been believed, though the London *Daily News* and the *Economist*, as well as the Liverpool, Bristol, Leeds, Belfast, and other Chambers, were not deceived by it. In 1860, the latter bodies sent a deputation to Lord Palmerston to tell him that the adoption of the principle in question was, in their opinion, perfectly consistent with the interests and honor of England. This remonstrance was mainly due to the example set by the Bremen convention of ship-owners, December 2, 1859, which emphatically endorsed not merely the Paris Declaration, but the doctrine adopted by the United States in relation to its third article. These Bremen resolutions found a cordial response throughout the entire commercial world. But the Nestor of British politics heeded the deputation very little, and dismissed it with some commonplace remarks about the evils of war, but insisting at the same time that the law of self preservation compelled a naval power like England to dispense with no weapon by which she may injure or weaken her enemies at sea. With this the matter was dropped. France tacitly acquiesced in the position assumed by her ally, and the other States neglected to move further in the premises.

The chances that the American doctrine would be generally adopted seemed for a time excellent. The French government showed every disposition to make a treaty with the United States on the basis of Mr. Marcy's despatch, and only waited for England to move. The second-rate powers had given good reason to expect their acquiescence. Mr. Mason, our Ambassador at Paris, who was a warm advocate of the reform, had already, in 1857, received full instructions from Washington to conclude the treaty, and was doing his best to obey them. All at once the negotiations came to a standstill. While they had been progressing public opinion underwent a complete change in England and the United States. Our Ambassador at London, Mr. Dallas, who had always maintained that the United States Government should under no circumstances abandon privateering, was not slow to take advantage of the reaction, and delayed to co-operate with Mr. Mason. Matters continued in this state until the accession of Mr. Buchanan to the Presidency, when the negotiations which were pending were entirely broken in consequence of certain concessions demanded by Mr. Cass, the new Secretary of State, in reference to the law of blockade. Lord Palmerston now also altered his views, and pronounced against any change in the maritime law, which settled the question as far as England was concerned. Such was the situation when two events occurred which led to a re-agitation of the proposed reform. The first was the passage of the Bremen resolutions by three hundred ship-owners and merchants in December, 1859; and the other was the Southern Rebellion. Schleinitz, the Prussian Minister of Foreign Affairs, promised the Hanse Towns to bring the question before the European congress then contemplated; but that body never met.

In the United States, where it became certain that the South intended to secede, the Federal authorities reopened the question. They declared themselves ready to subscribe to the four points of the Paris declaration of 1856, and to conclude, with this view, separate treaties with the European powers, not only for themselves, but also for the Southern States. The object naturally was to anticipate the recognition of the Southern Confederacy by England and France, and to have its privateers outlawed. In the Cabinet session of April 24, 1861, it was resolved to "accede unreservedly to the Paris declaration," but in separate conventions. Instructions to this effect were sent to the United States embassies abroad. France agreed to the proposition; but M. Thouvenel declared that the Government could not consider itself bound to interfere, either directly or indirectly, in our domestic quarrel. This not being considered satisfactory at Washington, the question was quietly dropped; and even a treaty already made with Russia remained unratified. In this way it came about that the United States Government, the earliest officially to broach the doctrine of exempting private property from capture at sea, was left in the rear of all other nations in the adoption of a liberal maritime code.

MAJOR H. von Minder, who raised and organized the first company of Minnesota Cavalry during the rebellion, died at St. Paul, Minn., December 25th. He was born December 30, 1826, at Flensburg, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, and soon after completing his education enlisted as a volunteer and served in the Schleswig-Holstein war. He was made a prisoner on two different occasions during the campaign in Tennessee, and was subsequently discharged as a Major in Brackett's Battalion. During General Sully's expedition to the Yellowstones, he occupied a prominent and responsible position. After his return to St. Paul, he followed his profession, that of civil engineer.

READING FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY.

The attention of Post Treasurers, Wardroom Messes, and individual readers is called to the following terms of clubbing offered by the proprietors of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL. These arrangements for clubbing are made for the purpose of reducing the cost of periodicals to Army and Navy readers, and this season of the year is the proper time for subscribing to weekly and monthly publications.

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THE Senate has before it a bill to repeal the eight-hour law. In discussing it Mr. TRUMBULL read a letter written by Colonel BENTON, August 20, 1868, to show its operations at the Springfield Arsenal. "This letter," added the Senator, "shows the folly of this law, if I may say so. None of us, I suppose, are opposed to the enactment and maintenance of any law that has a tendency to elevate labor and to relieve labor from improper burdens; but in this case our law has no such effect. The men whom it was designed to benefit do not approve of it, as this letter shows. It produces unpleasant feelings between those who are employed in the Government service and work eight hours and those who are outside and work ten. The effect of the law has not been beneficial upon the laboring interests of the country. On the contrary, it has created alienation and bad feeling, and has done no good. It has been construed differently at different places, as we now see by the bill which the Senator from Massachusetts has in charge; and I think it will be better for the Government, better for the laboring men, better for all concerned, to repeal the statute."

A FOREIGN correspondent sends us these facts: "The opening of the Austrian Reichsrath took place on December 28, 1871. The throne address was satisfactory, though it disclosed nothing new as to the situation. Attempts at conciliation having failed, the government recognizes the fact that only by an election can the now antagonistic interests of the different nationalities be reconciled. The constitution is to be made independent of the Landtag, and direct elections will be introduced making the Reichstag the real representative of the Austrian people. The school question is at last to be regulated and properly settled. The work of reform in general is to be resumed, and if the deputies of the empire will only conscientiously fulfil their duties, there may yet be hope for the further growth of Austria, since peace, for the present certainly, is insured. Germany expressing her determination to aid Austria in external complications, and, moreover, the economical situation is more favorable than ever. Formerly the national finances were the constant solicitude of Austrian statesmen; this year the budget laid before the Reichsrath shows a surplus of almost forty million thalers."

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Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

The subscription price of THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is Six Dollars a year, or THREE DOLLARS for six months, invariably in advance. Remittances may be made in a Post Office money order, United States funds, or Quartermasters', Paymasters', or other drafts, which should be made payable to the order of the Proprietors, W. C. & F. P. CHURCH. Where none of these can be procured, send the money, but always in a registered letter. The registration fee has been reduced to Fifteen cents, and the present registration system has been found by the postal authorities to be virtually an absolute protection against losses by mail. All postmasters are obliged to register letters whenever requested to do so.

WE are pleased to see that the plan we adopted several years ago of "clubbing" the JOURNAL with various other periodicals, in such a way as to offer a considerable deduction from the usual price, has exactly met the necessities of our subscribers. It has not only enabled them to obtain several periodicals in one order, but also at a reduced price. For instance, the sum of the regular price of the JOURNAL, Galaxy, Harper's Weekly and Harper's Monthly or Harper's Bazaar is eighteen dollars. By our clubbing arrangements we send the whole for fourteen dollars, thus reducing to the subscriber the cost of the JOURNAL to but two dollars, and for twenty-one dollars we send periodicals, the reduction upon which entirely covers the cost of the JOURNAL. And here let us say that if any subscriber to the JOURNAL desires to order any other periodical than those mentioned in our advertised terms, in connection with the JOURNAL, it will be furnished to him at the exact cost to the publishers of this paper. In making these clubbing terms we have been able to take advantage of the wholesale rates of the periodicals we club, and we give our subscribers the entire benefit of the reduction in price. We call special attention to this subject because at this time most readers are now selecting their supply of periodicals for the year.

STAFF SCHOOLS.

IN urging the consolidation of the Ordnance Corps with the artillery, and the organization of the merged services upon a footing suitable to the state of progress in the science of artillery, we advocated, as the first step to that end, the foundation upon the Prussian model, of a school of artillery and engineers. The report by General BARRY of the operations, progress and present condition of the Fort Monroe school, published last week, shows what has been already effected in the desired direction at this school. Evidently a very comprehensive course of studies and instruction has been established with a most capable staff to carry it out. And at Fort Monroe we trust to see grow up a school for artillery and engineer officers commensurate with their riper capacities, with a course of general and professional instruction in keeping with that which they received as youths at West Point to fit them for the first step in their military career. Without attempting any detailed examination of the course of studies instituted at Fort Monroe—which we repeat appears comprehensive—it is to be observed that the culture of foreign languages is omitted—and this is a serious omission. French is well taught at West Point, but from disuse officers in a few years, for the most part, become very rusty in their knowledge; French military works, moreover, no longer possess the exclusive importance which they did formerly, while German works have risen to a supreme interest. The German language has become essential in a military education, and greater proficiency in French should be exacted than that shown by our officers generally, after three or four years absence from West Point. Our neighborhood and probably prospective contact and intercourse with Spanish-speaking races, must also continue to give importance in our Army to the Spanish language.

With the slender endowment of the Fort Monroe school those who have built it up to its present condition, deserve the thanks of the Army. But what they have planted must grow and ripen into the special school for our artillery and engineer officers that may be readily developed out of it, at a comparatively small outlay.

This special school must not be confounded, as many of our officers—including our intelligent correspondent, "Bombshell"—do confound it, with the special schools of some European services, designed to educate boys or young men of the age of those who enter West Point, not for the general, but for a special service, such as the artillery, cavalry, staff, or engineers. We look for a higher, riper character of instruction than any possible for cadets; for a mental, professional culture superadded to the culture at West Point after a period of practical military experience. And from our knowledge of what happens in the Army under the present system, we insist that the desired culture can only be brought about by schools for officers; never from individual efforts of officers as students, except in a few instances. The same necessities which justify or make essential the Academy at West Point, apply with equal force to schools that shall, after a period of regimental duties, complete the round of professional training begun at West Point. Let us not be misled by the idea that the education acquired at our Military Academy—so adequate as a cadet school—can, under any circumstances, be sufficient to insure the highest degree of professional knowledge among our military men, or that this can be obtained by the mere changed organization contemplated by the WILLIAMS bill. This would be an utterly unwarranted expectation, a most fatal delusion, one which we beg the friends of Army reform and progress not to fall into. Nothing in the experience of our Army officers justifies these notions, so exaggerated, of the efficacy, for all time, of a mere cadet education.

We admit that the education at West Point is as thorough as possible for the age and circumstances of its *élèves*. In fact, our only objection is, that the course of instruction is so severe, we apprehend, as to cause too tense a mental strain upon the cadets. And as Shakespeare—wise in all matters—says:

A surfeit of the sweetest things,
The deepest loathing to the stomach brings.

So may the somewhat over-cramming process of studies breed mental satiety in its graduates for which, very often, there will be no remedy but compulsory culture. That school however supplies, felicitously, a sound, sufficient foundation for that which is to come; first, for regimental or company service and training up to the highest standard, and, thereafter, for such a theoretical culture as is required under the Prussian system, not only for all artillery and engineer officers, or officers who may aspire to staff employment, but also for all officers who may dream of aspiring to responsible employment or command. It is in the Prussian service that the supreme benefit of military education for the business of war has been most conclusively demonstrated, precisely because there military education is masterly. Its cadet schools, much like our Military Academy, furnish a fair proportion of the officers of the entering grade, but it does not stand still at that point. Such schools are the mere stepping-stones after a proper period of practical training with troops, to other and higher schools for ripe minds. One of these officer-schools, as we have said, is that for the artillery and engineers, where the highest possible range of instruction in these two scientific branches of the profession of arms is given.

And the training of these two services together is upon the soundest military principle. For now and henceforward artillery must supremely affect or control the operations of the engineer; the whole problem of fortress construction and defence must, after all, turn upon capacity to resist artillery, and to furnish the largest space and the greatest command for the employment of artillery. Seacoast ordnance and their carriages deeply concern the engineer; and torpedoes, which are technically ordnance contrivances—as much so as the mortar or rocket—have come to be important auxiliaries in harbor defence, and already in our service are assigned to our engineers for development. The defense and attack upon Charleston harbor illustrate how essential to each other and how closely allied these two branches of the service have become, as well as how important it is that the commanders in such enterprises should be highly trained; should be equally versed in artillery and the science of the military engineer.

In view of these facts, we beg that our officers who see the necessity for a radical reorganization, and who seek to give greater elevation to the service, will utterly dismiss from their minds the idea that theoretic instruction, even at a school as nearly perfect for that respect as West Point, can possibly suffice for the provision, at this day, of the number of officers for the scientific corps, for the higher staff employments, and to secure the necessary commanders for large operations. To fancy for example, that after consolidation with the ordnance, and subsequent mastery of the details of ordnance duty, superadded to the theoretical knowledge acquired at West Point, our artillery service would be superior to that of Prussia, as has been asserted, would be sheer infatuation. And to fancy, on the other hand, that we can continue essentially unchanged the present system, and yet have a creditable artillery compared with the standard elsewhere, were an obliquity of judgment passing belief.

Our own reformers must dismiss another error, regarding the character and purposes of the crowning school of the Prussian system of military training, the war academy at Berlin. That is not, in any true sense of the word, simply a staff school. It is true its *élèves* for a time are employed upon the staff as we explained in a previous article; it is true it is the highway to staff employment or detail, and thus to promotion out of the line of regular seniority which is the rule of promotion in the Prussian service; but, nevertheless, in reality, it is essentially a military university, in which are admitted the most gifted, the most promising and ambitious young officers of the Prussian army of every arm. They are there given such instruction in the highest reaches of the art of war (in a manner only attainable at such a university), as shall develop, stimulate, and culture their military aptitudes, and thus furnish the class of men fit to command Prussian regiments, brigades, divisions, corps, and armies in active service.

Under the Prussian system the staff itself, is, as it ought to be, regarded and used as a school for the training of officers to command and handle troops; the very antithesis of the stupid idea embodied in our laws and regulations excluding staff officers from military command. Viewing their staff employment in its true light, the Prussians, as we have shown, give it to the very flower of their officers. Their system is the safest one for us to follow—not of course upon the scale necessary for the immense military establishment which Germany maintains; but upon one adapted with skill to our precise and prospective needs, with some provision, however, for our own immense crude State military establishments, the proper organization of which, in an intelligent manner, harmonious with our political system, is a great work to be taken in hand and accomplished.

FROM time to time communications have come to us from enlisted men of the Army, written with such show of credibility that we cannot doubt there are officers of the regular service who grossly abuse their positions, to the serious injury of the Army. From a very recent letter from a discharged soldier, we condense a statement of what is complained of by enlisted men. This man, an infantry soldier of two enlistments, declares that it is within his experience that the Army Regulations regarding the rights of the men are constantly disregarded by some officers, and that menial services are exacted of them, regardless of their wishes or feelings, in spite of the regulations.

Further, that the men are not infrequently "sworn at" in the most degrading manner; that they are menaced, by a class of officers, with personal outrages, and on occasion even stricken in the face without power on the part of the outraged soldier either to resent or obtain redress for the injuries inflicted. In fact, that any effort in either direction would end in his prolonged confinement in guard-house upon some allegation of "conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline," possibly with subsequent conviction and loss of pay. In other words, that "ill-tempered, overbearing officers," are able to be very harsh and oppressive, without due accountability. Moreover, that the very funds raised from the savings of the Army ration in each company is open to easy misapplication by unscrupulous officers, and that not seldom those whose

comfort materially depend upon the judicious use of these funds derive little benefit from them.

This is the burden of the complaints which reach us, and which we prefer to make known in this general way rather than to print *seriatim* the communications which convey them. We are very sure, however, that all these complaints arise from the misconduct of an exceptional class of officers; but the trouble is, nevertheless, that any officer can have it in his power to inflict rank injustice upon helpless fellowmen, and thus to bring discredit upon the Army by dishonoring our soldiers. Unable to doubt that just grounds for complaint exist in the conduct of some officers toward their men, we are constrained to call the attention of the superior officers of the service to the matter and to invoke their action, to the end that such lawlessness and offence against the manhood of the private soldier may be suppressed.

Strict discipline, we know, is the foundation of military society, but it must be tempered with strict justice. The rights of the soldier under the law and regulations should be held as sacred as those of his officers; and no officer should be suffered to over-ride them at his own pleasure. Those who may have hitherto done so in the different regiments of the Army have engendered a good deal of dissatisfaction, small as the class of offenders really is; a class of men whom accident has lifted to commissions—coarse men, unused to authority, and therefore, as a rule, inclined to transgress its limits. The mass of our officers owe it to themselves and the honor and dignity of the service that the practices we have indicated should be closely looked after and thoroughly uprooted from among them.

THE series of articles which that well-known cavalryman, General G. A. CUSTER, is contributing to the *Galaxy* magazine promises to be of exceeding interest to the public. They will probably do much to familiarize civilians generally with the character of the country wherein our troopers—as is represented by a certain class of reformers naturally inimical to the Army—are wont to disport themselves in inglorious ease, now and again varying their life of idleness and luxury, however, by "cold-blooded massacres" of poor Lo, who but for them would pursue unrestrained the harmless chase of the buffalo and antelope. General CUSTER will undoubtedly show the public a real photograph of life as it is on the Plains, and paint out with his rude hand many of the delightful views of Indian character and horrid representations of Army experience with the untutored aborigine which philanthropists like COLYER have depicted. He has already, in the first article of his series, disabused the minds of his readers of many false notions as to the character of the country west of the Missouri which had been created by the tales of travellers who hurried across the continent, or perhaps never even saw the region they undertook to describe. It really is surprising how much false information has been sent abroad by such writers, and General CUSTER will be doing a service to us all and to history if he presents the actual facts about a country with which he is familiar. In his second article, of which we have the advance sheets, he discusses quite fully the Indian question, and shows how different is the wild denizen of the Plains with which the Army has to deal from the fancy Indian of the *Ledger* story with his feathers and war-paint and generous emotions.

In this article to which we are now referring the General gives evidence of the fact that he has been an interested student of the Indian ethnologically, and has had access to various authorities on the subject. It is not yet before the reader, and so we shall not now undertake to point out at any length that certain conclusions which he draws seem to us perhaps a little forced. It is enough to say that granting the truth of the General's declaration—as we are disposed to do—that our American Indian is totally uncivilizable, it seems hardly philosophical, as he with other writers on him do, to trace back his origin to certain of the most vigorous and progressive races of the old world. If our American Indian is an offshoot of the Phoenician or Hebrew race, surely he must have in him the germs of a tendency to civilization which not even the long centuries of his persistent savagism could kill. The question, however, is a large one, involving as it

does that other one as to the common or various origin of the Indian, and the whole solution of the ancient remains in Mexico and Arizona.

We need only add that General CUSTER has undertaken a work which, if it continues as commendable as it promises to do, will be well worth having done, and a creditable introduction of the widely-known cavalryman to the literary field.

DURING a sudden thaw which occurred in the Delaware river last week, close upon the Christmas holidays, the *Chattanooga* encountered great masses of ice which came pouring down the stream, and speedily succumbed to them and sunk. This freshwater ice is always sharper than that composed of salt water, and in this case, as a local journal expresses it, it "cut like a knife" into the sides of the vessel, which forthwith filled with water and sunk into the mud of the narrow stream. The circumstance suggests the fact that it was here that it was proposed to build a Navy-yard, to be the great naval centre of the country, but fortunately the project was not realized.

The name of the *Chattanooga* must be a familiar one to our readers, whether in the Navy or not. She was one of the huge naval canoes built in competition with ISHERWOOD and LENTHALL'S marvellous constructions of the same variety, and which had their beginning and end with the dominance of those gentlemen. Her original engines, built by Merrick & Sons of Philadelphia, were eventually removed on the recommendation of the famous naval board of which Admiral GOLDSBOROUGH was president, and which put the final quietus on the ISHERWOOD insane innovations, because, although ISHERWOOD had tried to condemn them to the scrap heap, they had proved themselves eminently serviceable. These out, the *Chattanooga*, which never was adapted to the purpose for which she was built—a great canoe crammed with machinery—was allowed to remain at League Island, to do partial duty as a storeship; and she remained there a sad and suggestive monument of the astounding engineering and naval policy of which she was so conspicuous an example. In life she never vindicated her existence and in death she cannot be hopelessly mourned.

THE following bills have been introduced into the House of Representatives thus far and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs:

No. 559—For additional pay to persons commissioned in the Volunteer service and not mustered in new rank.
Nos. 573, 641, 647—To equalize the bounties of soldiers, sailors, and marines who served in the late war.
No. 580—To restore the name of T. H. Carpenter, late captain Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, to the rolls of the Army.
No. 603—Authorizing the sale of arsenals.
No. 705—To authorize the restoration of George A. Armes to the rank of captain in the Army.
No. 711—For the relief of William W. Speirs, late assistant surgeon U. S. Army.

The following have been introduced into the Senate and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs:

No. 380—To promote the securing of efficient seamen for the Navy of the United States.
No. 391—Regulating promotion, employment, and pay in the Navy of the United States.
No. 417—Fixing the rank of professors of mathematics in the U. S. Navy.
In the House Mr. Hanks introduced a bill (No. 725) to provide for the erection of a marine hospital at or near the city of Helena, Arkansas.

Mr. Scott presented petition of commanding officers of the Navy, stating that their rates of pay, as established by the last session of Congress, are out of all proportion to those of other officers, not only of the Navy, but also of the Army, and asking for a corresponding increase. It was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

In the Senate a bill was introduced to regulate the pay of commanding officers in the Navy; which was read twice by its title, and ordered to lie on the table, and be printed.

The following resolutions are also before the various committees:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Treasury be, and they are hereby, requested to inform this House of the circumstances attending the suspension or mustering out of Brevet Brigadier-General George W. Balloch, and of the steps taken in the examination and settlement of his accounts, so far as the same were brought to the notice of their respective Departments.

Resolved, That so much of the report of the Secretary of the Navy as refers to the establishing of iron ship-building yards and docks be referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, and that they be directed to inquire into the expediency of establishing an iron ship-building yard and docks at some point in the Mississippi Valley, and report by bill or otherwise.

Resolved, That the Secretary of War, be, and is hereby, directed to furnish this House with a copy of the proceedings of the Military Commission instituted by the War Department in the year 1872, to inquire into the military operations and conduct of Major-General Don Carlos Buell, including all letters, despatches, opinions, and orders on file in that Department relative thereto.

Resolved, That there be printed for the use of the Senate one thousand copies of the Army Register to be published in January, 1872.

Also a joint resolution (H. R. No. 64) amending the Rules and Articles of War for the government of the armies of the United States; and a bill (H. R. No. 628) to confer upon the Court of Claims jurisdiction of the claim of Brevet Brigadier-General B. S. Roberts.

CORRESPONDENCE.

STAFF REORGANIZATION.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Your editorial of last week went straight to many of the existing evils of an independent organization of the Department of Ordnance, and made the magnitude of their mischief very clear. It was exhaustive and unanswerable, so far as it went. But it did not reach one of the chieftest of them, in its antagonism to progress in the other arms of service. The entire control of arming, equipping and supplying all the material for cavalry, artillery, and infantry, excepting camp and garrison equipage, is now under the direction of the Chief of Ordnance; and yet that officer, and few others only of the entire personnel of the corps, ever served a day in the field or in the garrison of the Army, or on its frontiers, to learn the practical working of the vast ordnance equipment they supply, to see their defects, and in practical experience get at practical remedies. The attempt is made to learn the defects of their arms, ordnance, artillery, equipments, and material by reports and correspondence. Failure has been the invariable result. The magnitude of this evil is only known to old and experienced officers, and it is almost incalculable.

If the most experienced officer of cavalry or artillery go to-day to the Chief of Ordnance to show him defects in their equipment and suggest changes their experience pre-eminently qualifies them to suggest, as a rule they are treated with indecorum of office, and *mêle vous de vos affaires* is put to them in the more abrupt mother tongue, *mind your own business*.

Probably there is not an officer of the Army of twenty years' service, who has not at one time or another experienced this most offensive assertion of Bureauocracy impertinence and superiority. No army can ever be reformed, or progress and improvement become developed in it while this kind of independent staff organization and bureau power continues. In no other army has it ever existed so long and to the extent that it exists under our staff organization. Nothing will now cure it but radical, thorough change, and such reorganization as shall fix the command of every staff department in the general commanding the Army.

The bill of Mr. Williams proposes this cure. There is no community of feeling, no sympathy of military ideas between the line of the army and the staff. Special laws of Congress building up so many independent bureau organizations, having headquarters at Washington, have created irreconcilable antagonism of interests, and given such preponderance of power to the staff, that the line of the Army, the hard toiling, hard-fighting personnel, foremost in the field, and always on the frontiers, are ignored or swallowed up in the rapacious maw of staff aggrandizement and power.

This is simply a fact. There is no fiction in the statement of it. The witnesses are a great multitude, embracing the entire personnel of the line of the army, in all of its arms of cavalry, artillery and infantry. Could they all gather at Washington, and be heard before Congress, Mr. Williams's bill, or some substantive equivalent of it, would, with little delay, become a law for the Army. But it is not our intention further to reason this question of change in the Ordnance Department, but leave the logic of facts to form judgment and conviction of its necessity and paramount importance for the Army's good.

So far, the experiment has been fruitless in promoting the destructiveness of the means and enginery of war, and its yearly cost to the Treasury has been in excess of any other staff branch of the supplying departments. The fact cannot be doubted, that the yearly appropriations of Congress the past twenty years, for building and keeping in repair the scattered public arsenals, armories, and foundries in the different States, would have supplied an army of a million of men with the most improved modern arms and ordnance. And further it is beyond doubt, that in the competition for such a supply, private enterprise would have been so stimulated, that the inventive skill and genius of our mechanics in private armories would have produced weapons and their ammunition of superior excellence to anything yet fabricated under the genius of ordnance officers.

The private enterprise of a single establishment in Prussia, under the direction of a poor mechanic, Krupp, who rose from poverty and manual labor at his father's forge, has done more to perfect artillery and ordnance than all the corps of ordnance officers and their monopoly of armories and arsenals and moneys in the United States, and is conclusive of the question of public and private enterprise in any of the great mechanical institutions of the day, whether in the arts of peace or war. The repression of individual energies by government monopolies is fatal to the activities of the inventive power and skill of American mechanics; and in this skill the progress, so far as it has gone in our improved arms, ordnance, artillery, and mechanics of war, has taken practical embodiment and use against all the impediments of ordnance monopoly. From the beginning it opposed our breech-loading arms, metallic ammunition, and rifled ordnance. But Yankee enterprise was irrepressible, and at the cost of inventors their improvements were so clearly demonstrated, that one after another of our many fossilized chiefs of ordnance were compelled to accept them.

It is seemingly incredible, that with all the facilities of the public armories and their machinery, that no one ordnance officer has originated any single substantive improvement in arms, projectiles, or field equipments of armories. The genius of invention has not been the inspiring genius of this department. At first, when it made war on the beginning of progress, but was compelled finally to abandon its darling old flint-lock and accept the percussion, a sort of dismay paralyzed its energies; and to get this first improvement into practical use, Congress was compelled to place civil superintendents over all its armories. And while they were under this civil superintendence, they were thrown open

to the first trials of breech-loaders. This beginning, however, was only got through the practical and better judgment of civil superintendents, experienced mechanics, who saw in the first rude breech-loading arms the end of muzzle-loaders. Whether wisely or not, ordnance officers again were placed in charge of armories, but not until the problem of breech-loading arms had been solved, and the conservatism of ordnance officers could no longer resist their adoption into the Army. While for years the sporting arms made in private shops were illustrating the practical utility of percussion-locks and their great advantage over flint-locks, the Fathers of Ordnance embraced their old love, and prolonged the dalliance until after the experience of the Mexican war had so pronounced in favor of the percussion musket, that a divorce was wrung from the ancient law of "flint and steel" by the unanimous petition of the entire line of the Army. Older citizens and officers will remember the persistent opposition of the Ordnance Office to the introduction of Colt's revolver into our cavalry service, and the untiring efforts of the inventor of that valuable cavalry arm to get its first trial in our Army. It was thus that private enterprise and the inventions of our private citizens fought their way into the Army, and infused into arms and ordnance the spirit of progress and reform. The opposition to the introduction of metallic cartridges was still more persistently made by the Ordnance Department, and fought with fiercer determination. And here again victory was won after the hardest fought battle for progress by private invention and enterprise against the dead ideas and dead heads in the Bureau of Ordnance. Behind the times they always have been, and behind the times they always will be, unless retrogression by some eclipse of the light of invention shall carry us back to the days of match-locks in small arms and battering-rams and stone-slings for sieges and assaults.

The enormous cost to the Treasury of keeping up the ordnance system would hardly be worth consideration if its arsenals and armories were productive of superior excellence in arms and ammunition. But the fact is notable that it has neither originated or perfected any of the most approved weapons of modern invention most destructive and wasteful of life in battles, and intended to make war too costly in its sacrifices to be entered upon when it is possible for nations to maintain themselves without the appeal to arms. Private armories have produced our best small arms, our best ammunition, and our best heavy and field ordnance and artillery.

The past ten years has revolutionized arms, armies, systems of war and its theories the world over, by the introduction of more destructive enginery and mechanics of war, invented and perfected by outside invention and mechanical skill. Such skill, however, in our country has met the most formidable opposition and determined hostility of every Chief of Ordnance within that period. The good time has come to correct this evil of incalculable magnitude. Congress alone can abate it, and the bill of Mr. Williams of New York has this object in view, and with few amendments can accomplish it.

BOMBSHELL.

AMERICAN MUZZLE-LOADERS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Assuming that Captain Nicaise has satisfactorily established the superior accuracy of the Belgian breech-loader as compared with the best practice of other breech-loaders, and the French and Austrian muzzle-loaders, it is all the more satisfactory to know that with our improved projectiles the published practice of the Belgian breech-loaders can be equalled if not excelled by our muzzle-loading 3-inch rifle. Admitting, however, that the practice obtained with our expanding projectiles during the Rebellion has been fairly represented in Captain Michaelis's foot notes, the exhibit is a sorry one for the "American system," and it is in the belief that it will greatly interest many of your readers that we ask you to make room in the JOURNAL for a record of recent experiments with the 3-inch ordnance rifle, made with a view to determine the merits of a new projectile.

It is not intended in this article to discuss the relative merits of the breech and muzzle-loading systems, but it is fair to say that the chief argument in favor of the breech-loader has been its very superior accuracy, and we venture the opinion that, if equal accuracy can be assured with the muzzle-loader, a large majority of artillery officers will pronounce in favor of that simple system.

Although no apology is deemed necessary in presenting the records given below, nevertheless it is but just that, in the comparison instituted, the following considerations should be borne in mind:

First, the target records published by Captain Nicaise are selected from a large number of results (we believe some 20,000 rounds were fired), and as he was probably aware that his readers would credit him with selecting the best records for publication, he has probably governed himself accordingly. On the other hand, the records submitted by your correspondent are the only ones available, the experiments having been exceedingly limited.

Second, the Belgian experiments were so extensive that an exact graduation of the sights was probably effected by a suitable number of shots; whereas in our experiments three shots were allowed with which to "feel" for each target. All the shots fired will be found plotted upon the target except four.

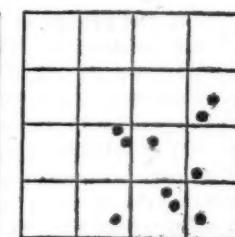
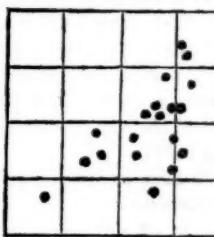
Third, the Belgian 3-inch shell weighed but little over nine pounds, and the experiment being solely for accuracy the charge was probably at least one-eighth the weight of the projectile, and of the best powder. In our experiments, the principal object being to test the strength and other qualities of the projectiles independent of accuracy, one-half of the shells were packed with lead balls, so that their weight exceeded eleven pounds each. This, besides necessitating a change of elevation to reach the target (throwing the gunner again in the dark), rendered the trajectory an exceedingly curved one, as the charge was unchanged and less than one-eleventh the weight of projectile: whereas good

practice required it to be at least one eighth, especially as the projectiles in question allowed windage.

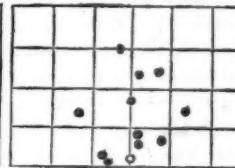
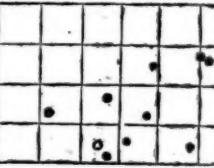
Taking into consideration, then, the foregoing facts, we think there is no question but that, good as our practice must be pronounced, it can be excelled without difficulty under circumstances as favorable as those under which the Belgian practice occurred.

The JOURNAL publishes two of Captain Nicaise's target records made at 875 yards. These we plot on one rectangle and compare with American practice at 820 yards. The Belgian practice at 1,312 yards we in like manner plot upon one target and compare with the American practice at 1,500 yards.

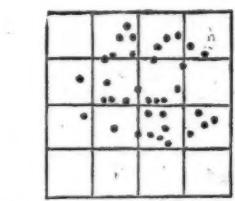
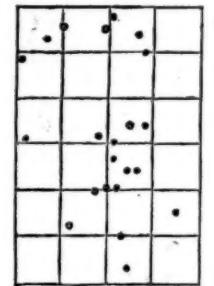
[To save the necessity of re-engraving, we insert the Belgian targets as they were published in the JOURNAL. Those who wish to follow out our correspondent's comparison exactly, can easily assemble all the shots on one target.—ED. JOURNAL.]



Belgian Breech-loader at 800 metres or 875 yards.



Belgian Breech-loader at 1,200 metres or 1,312 yards.



American Muzzle-loader at 820 yards;—at 1,500 yards.

The target on the left is taken from the official records of experimental firing with the 3-inch gun at Fortress Monroe on December 5, 1870, and April 20, 1871. The firing given in the target on the right at 1,500 yards occurred July 18, 1871.

This target would be better, but observing that the shot were clustering too low, the gun was raised upon the target with the effect observed, viz.: two clusters separated by a considerable interval. Make this allowance and the breech-loader is beaten even at a disadvantage of nearly 200 yards in the distance fired over.

It is of course not the intention that results so promising shall be allowed to remain unimproved, but when experiments will be resumed it is impossible to say.

OZARK.

ARMY PRISON DISCIPLINE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: It has often, during a six years' service, been a matter of no small surprise to me that some action has not before now been taken for the removal of the many abuses connected with our Army prison discipline, and that instead of the totally unfit and disgraceful one now practised another has not been substituted which would show an intention on the part of the authorities to do their duty both toward themselves and toward those who have been unfortunate enough to become subjects of legal restraint.

Instead of having any salutary effect (reforming the criminal should be the object of all prison discipline), a two or three weeks' sojourn in our present guardhouse completely blunts, if not actually kills, every feeling of delicacy, honesty, and manhood.

To account for this, no one acquainted with its internal arrangements needs a word of mine. To a person of any refined feelings (and an occasional one can be found among the "unwashed million"), the idea of being crowded into one common pen with criminals, some of the deepest dye, cannot fail to be most repulsive. What then must his feelings be when, on the occasion of his first confinement—for the most trivial offence perhaps—he is arraigned before the "court" composed of prisoners—the "president" of which is generally appointed because of the heinousness of his offence, or from his physical qualifications as a "shoulder-hitter"—and sentenced to pay a fine, in default of which corporal punishment of the most degrading kind is inflicted upon him? His appeals to the guard for protection is unheeded, and from the impassiveness of No. 1, who walks his beat indifferent to the cries of pain from the poor victim, one would doubt whether he breathed the free air of republican America or had become a subject of the "Northern Bear" when the knout brought fellow men down to the level of brutes. Neither can the sentinel or commander of the guard be much to blame, for it is to the imperfect discipline which meets one at every step and turn of the service that it can be traced. The sentinel or any member of a guard who *dared* do his duty was marked, and woe betide the poor fellow should he by a turn of fortune, become an inmate of the "mill."

Consequently, the fear of the terrible and sometimes almost fatal punishment is such that they determine to forfeit their standing as soldiers to that of being considered "hail fellow well met" with the criminals, whose acquaintance, under other circumstances, they would be ashamed to acknowledge.

Many of your readers will no doubt be astonished to hear that in a certain post, garrisoned by over a half dozen companies, comprising both cavalry and infantry—where one would naturally look for a strict enforcement of discipline, where a lover of *esprit de corps* would look for the existence of his favorite hobby, but the want of which he could easily trace to the indifference manifested by those high in authority to cherish it—sentinels were ostensibly placed over prisoners as a guard, but virtually were their servants so far as obeying their slightest suggestion, or in supplying whiskey or any other luxury demanded by them.

In your issue of the 2d instant I mentioned the cause of the want of discipline discernible in the line branches of the service, and it does not require any lengthened or painful process of reasoning to attribute the want of prison discipline to the same source, provided that we keep in view that in ten cases out of twelve non-commissioned officers command the guard at all posts.

For the present incommodeous single guard-house, totally unadapted for the purpose, substitute two of smaller dimensions with separate cells (crime is epidemic, and intercourse with criminals blunts our horror of heinous offences) so close to and facing each other that a sentinel (No. 1) can exercise a watchfulness over both at almost the same time. In one of these buildings keep those prisoners charged with serious offences, and whose association might taint those having a layer of good intention at the bottom.

The other should hold prisoners charged with garrison offences, all intercourse with the other building being strictly prohibited. Let the duties of the first embrace all the dirty jobs, easily found in a post, while those of the second should be drill, packed knapsack, for over a half a dozen hours daily.

The present system of compelling a soldier (though in confinement) to do scavengers' work is quite obnoxious, and helps to lower him in his own estimation, and everything that adds to lower the soldier in his own and his comrades' esteem helps to subtract from his available service.

The evils of the present system are at once apparent, and the advantages of the one proposed must become obvious in a moment, for, by the system which I propose, all intercourse between criminals would only be momentary, and the bad spirits would have no time to disseminate an evil doctrine to those whose confinement was only temporary. So far for "Prison Ethics;" and now of garrison courts-martial.

Abolish the present system of garrison courts-martial and let the post commander constitute a court in his own person before whom persons charged with garrison offences may be arraigned. Why this is a better system than the garrison courts-martial now in vogue is palpable; for the influence which a captain could bring to bear upon individual members of the latter (his first or second lieutenant, for instance) would never be resorted to by the former as his superior officer.

Have it the duty of all post adjutants to keep a faithful record of all criminal trials at his post, and at every trial of every prisoner to take his character from this record, the punishment to be inflicted to be regulated according to such character, and not, as at present, by the opinion of his company commander, who unfortunately being mortal is liable to the same prejudices and antipathies as any individual of the *canaille*.

When a change of stations takes place let a transcript, countersigned by the post commander, of all criminals be exchanged, and all our commanding officers almost at once will know the character (a thing very necessary) of his new command.

Lest any of your readers should imagine that I have expressed myself from a feeling of prejudice, allow me to state that I have never been but once (and that only for an hour) in confinement, and have never been arraigned before any court, either general, garrison or field officers.

SOLDIERS' PAY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Speaking of desertion in the Army, the Honorable Secretary of War in his able report says, "that the reports received at the Department indicate that the reduction of soldiers' pay from \$16 to \$13 per month contributes greatly to this result," etc., thus solving in a few well-chosen words the much-written-about question of desertion. In nine cases out of ten this is the cause, and it is to be earnestly hoped, in view of an opinion from such high authority, that Congress will take some decided action, beneficial to the enlisted men of the Army, in the matter.

We have to meet all our personal expenses out of the small sum now given us, expenses that none outside of the "soldiers" are aware of. For instance, the shirts issued us cannot be worn until completely re-made—the collars alone being of such size, that, judging from their dimensions, the contractor must imagine that our ears are of Jackass-like proportions and out of compass provide us with a suitable hiding place for them. Of course I am referring to the "white flannel shirt," for no soldier would wear the gray, blue, green, and other colored abominations styled a "shirt," unless compelled by dire necessity. With our pay back at the old standard, better articles of clothing, requiring slight alteration, issued us, a better feeling would be established than now exists. Desertion would in a great measure cease, and everything would work better.

Desertion will always exist to a slight extent in our service, our men not being kept under such rigid military discipline and surveillance as in European armies, and there always being a certain percentage of men who are no good in or out of the service.

"AN OLD HAND ON THE JOB"

FORT JOHNSON, N. C., December 17, 1871.

ENGLISH AND FOREIGN ORDNANCE.

(From the London Broad Arrow, December 10.)

IT curiously happens that just when we are engaged in discussing the consequences of the injury to the steel tube of our 35-ton gun, the particulars reach us of a far more serious accident which has befallen a large Krupp gun in Russia. The *Pall Mall Gazette* says: "To take the English gun first. This gun has been used for the testing of various experimental powders, and for determining how far the service pebble powder is suitable for the very heavy charges now required. That the powder is perfectly suitable for charges from 15 lb. or 20 lb. up to 90 lb. or 100 lb. has been amply demonstrated. It is also suitable for charges of over 100 lb.? That is a question toward the solution of which the experiments with the 35-ton gun have been directed. In the course of those experiments the gun has fired the following rounds: With an 11.6-inch bore: 4 rounds with 75 lb., 2 rounds with 100 lb., 16 rounds with 110 lb., 6 rounds with 115 lb., 6 with 120 lb., and 1 with 130 lb.; total, 35. After enlargement to a 12-inch bore: 8 rounds with 1,100 lb., 13 rounds with 115 lb., 14 rounds with 120 lb.; total, 33. Making a total of 68 rounds, composed as follows—4 rounds 75 lb., 2 rounds 100 lb., 22 rounds 110 lb., 19 rounds 115 lb., 20 rounds 120 lb., 1 round 130 lb. The shot in each case weighed 700 lb. The amount of powder consumed is thus 7,635 lb., or about 8½ tons. The weight of shot fired is 47,600 lb., or over 21 tons. At this point the gun was subjected by one round to the extraordinary internal pressure of 66 tons to the square inch. What happened? The steel tube registered by a small crack the fact that it had been subjected to a strain greater than it could bear; but the gun did not become unserviceable. It may be fired again and again with its injured steel tube; or the split steel tube can be replaced with a sound one, and the gun will be as good as ever again. It is scarcely possible for a piece of ordnance to behave better than this gun has done. If you put upon metal of any description a heavier strain than it is calculated to bear, it must yield. The important point in the case of a gun is that it should not yield explosively—that it should give warning, and admit of repair or renewal. This is what the English gun has done, and this behavior is characteristic of that English system of gun-building which Sir William Armstrong was the first to teach us how to apply.

"To turn to the Krupp gun. On the 29th September last an 11-inch steel Krupp gun exploded at Cronstadt at the first round, when fired with a charge of 90.92 lb. English (or 100 lb. Russian) and a shot of 496.54 lb. English (or 550 lb. Russian). The muzzle of the gun burst into several pieces, the back part of the gun remaining on the carriage uninjured. Now, there are one or two points in connection with this gun which are worthy of special notice. In the first place, it costs as nearly as possible £6,000, the cost of an English gun of the same calibre being about £3,000. In the second place, these 11-inch Krupp guns are fully adopted in Russia. In the third place, we are driven to one or two conclusions—either that the Krupp guns are accepted by the Russian government and mounted on the works without being proved, or that proof is worthless as an indication of the strength and serviceability of the guns. And with regard to these conclusions we may, perhaps, venture to accept not one but both of them. It is quite in accordance with the whole system under which the Krupp guns obtained a footing in Russia that they should be introduced unproved. The system itself was practically unproved when it was adopted there; and it is not surprising to find individual guns accepted on the same terms. And perhaps the Russian artillery officers have a suspicion that in the case of a steel gun no proof is of very much avail. They probably know—though they would perhaps be indisposed to admit it at how great a cost they have acquired the knowledge, that an essential feature and radical fault of steel is its uncertainty. The whole history of gun-making abounds with examples of this. And therefore it may be easily understood that to test a gun which may resist one or two rounds triumphantly and explode at the third, is deemed superfluous by those who have had experience with weapons of this material. And in view of this disastrous failure of one of the largest and most costly of the service Krupp guns, a gun embodying all the most recent improvements of construction, and confidently recommended, just as the unhooped Krupp guns, which have since been abandoned, were confidently recommended in their day—in view of this failure, what becomes of the theory upon which one of the most eager partisans of the Krupp system (Captain von Doppelmaier) has based his advocacy of those weapons? 'Ex uno disce omnes,' says Captain von Doppelmaier. 'From the trial of one specimen (of steel guns) a judgment can be formed as to all guns of this description.' Is this so? If so, the heavy artillery of Russia must be in a thoroughly unsatisfactory condition. The failure of this gun has created the liveliest excitement among artillerists in Russia; and the *Journal of St. Petersburg* contains an article from the pen, apparently, of Colonel Kolokoltzoff, the superintendent of the Alexandrovsky Factory. From that article we learn that the committee appointed to examine the gun attributed the failure to 'a defect in the metal near to the muzzle.' If we accept this conclusion, and there is no reason why we should reject it, we are obliged to fall back upon the question we have asked before: What is the proof worth to which those guns are subjected? or are they subjected to no proof at all? Are they received on the Doppelmaier theory? Is one gun of a batch proved, and no more?

"It is worth while to observe that the failure in both the guns—English and Russian—has occurred in the steel part. In the case of the English gun no reproach attaches to the steel, which has been subjected to excessive strains. In the case of the Krupp gun the steel seems to be open to the reproach of having been defective, as the gun yielded at a strain far below what it should be capable of sustaining. This difference is characteristic of steel—thoroughly good and strong, and resisting in one gun, utterly worthless and unsafe in another. But there is another point to note. In the English gun the injury

was at once arrested on reaching the wrought-iron coils, in which the strength of the gun resides. The Krupp gun having no wrought-iron coils, the injury was not checked, but proceeded instantly from the interior to the exterior. Lastly, while the English gun gave warning of its condition, the Krupp gun gave none. There are no new features in this behavior of the two guns. On the contrary, all the features are old, they have been repeated over and over again. Only we are so frequently being told such great things of the steel guns, to the disengagement of our own, that it is worth while when an opportunity occurs to compare the behavior of the two in order that the public may be able to form their own opinion on the subject."

THE MARTINI-HENRY RIFLE.

FROM the report of the St. Louis Board we take the following account of the trial of this gun, which has been adopted for the British service:

I. *The Martini Rifle calibre .45, (short breech-block).*

Sent by H. Martini, Switzerland.

Was dismounted, examined, and found to consist of sixty-one pieces.

II. The arm was fired for accuracy with the Boxer cartridge (bottle-shaped and paper-patched ball). Target record I II., No. 1. In three instances the hammer pierced the primer.

III. The arm was fired for rapidity. Time, six minutes; sixteen cases were forced out with the ramrod. In some instances the base became detached by the ramrod, and the remainder of the case was removed with pliers. Target record I III., No. 1.

IV. Arm tested for endurance:

First 100 rounds: sixty shots fired; after the fifth cartridge every case was removed with the ramrod, or with pliers. On examination it was found that the cases were covered with a lacquer. This was removed from the remainder of the 100 rounds by means of alcohol. The cases were then readily drawn by the extractor with four exceptions, when the ramrod was applied. Dispersion of balls, 17 by 27 inches.

There being but 250 cartridges received for each Martini rifle, the number of cartridges used in most of the tests for these arms was necessarily reduced, and one test omitted.

One hundred and fifty cartridges were to be used in the fourth test.

Fifty rounds, from some of which the lacquer was removed, were fired. The cases of those from which the lacquer was wiped, extracted easily; the others it was necessary to force out with the ramrod. In one instance the extractor removed the iron base of the case without starting the shell, and it was removed with pliers.

The case of the forty-sixth cartridge could not be removed even with the ramrod and pliers. The test was discontinued. The arm worked stiffly throughout this test. The 5th test was omitted.

VI. Arm subjected to sand test. Three shots fired. After the first shot, the sand was sifted over the breech mechanism, closed and fired; then the sand was sifted over the breech mechanism when open and one shot fired. The breech mechanism worked freely, but did not extract the cases. Sand was found in the receiver, on the guard-plate, and in rear of the breech-block.

VII. The arm was subjected to the salt-water test, and four shots fired. Arm somewhat rusted, but worked freely. In each instance the cases were extracted by the extractor on second trial.

VIII. Arm tested with defective cartridges. No escape of gas from the first three cartridges; gas escaped at the breech-block from the fourth and fifth; great escape of gas from the sixth cartridge. The lever was unlocked, and the breech-block was slightly lowered.

IX. Arm tested for strength by firing increased charges; gas escaped from the breech and unlocked the lever. Arm uninjured. No signs of wear or weakness with the exception that the lever was unlocked in one instance by firing a defective cartridge, and in two instances by firing increased charges.

I. *The Martini Rifle, calibre .45 (long block).*

Sent by Y. Martini, Switzerland.

Was dismounted, examined, and found to consist of sixty-two pieces.

II. The arm was fired for accuracy with the Boxer cartridge (cylindrical paper-patched ball). Target record K II., No. 1.

III. Arm fired for rapidity: Time two minutes, thirty-eight seconds. Target record K III., No. 1.

The cases were not extracted in every instance the first time the breech-block was opened.

IV. Arm tested for endurance with 150 rounds:

First 100 rounds, twelve minutes, dispersion of balls 35 by 43 inches: Two cases were removed with the ramrod. In one instance the base of the shell was removed by the extractor without starting the case, which was removed with pliers. In some instances the primers were pierced.

Fifty rounds; dispersion of balls 43 by 21 inches. The cases, with three exceptions, were drawn by the extractor. Arm worked stiffly; barrel slightly fouled. No leading.

V. Weather test omitted.

VI. Arm subjected to the sand test. Three shots fired. After the first shot, sand was sifted over the breech mechanism, closed, and one shot fired; then sand was sifted over the breech mechanism open, and one shot fired.

After the second application of sand the firing-pin did not at first come in contact with the cartridge, but did after several trials. Arm worked stiffly and with a grating noise. On examination sand was found in the receiver in the notches of the tumbler, among the pieces attached to the guard plate.

VII. Arm subjected to the salt water test, and four shots fired. Arm did not cock at first, every time the breech was entirely opened, but did after working it some time. Extractor started the cases, but did not draw them from the chamber.

VIII. Arm fired with defective cartridges. No escape of gas from the first and third cartridges. Gas escaped from the second, fourth and fifth cartridges. The sixth cartridge unlocked, and slightly depressed the lever. The upper stud of the safety device was blown off. Heavy escape of gas below the breech-block.

IX. Arm tested for strength by firing with increased charges. Gas escaped from the breech, and unlocked the lever.

With the exceptions above noted, no signs of wear or weakness in any of the parts.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

SEVENTY-FIRST INFANTRY.—On the evening of December 23 the officers of this command elected by a unanimous vote Captain Richard Vose, the senior commandant of the Twenty-second Infantry, Lieutenant-colonel of the regiment, vice Wolcott, resigned. The selection of an officer for this position from an outside source may forcibly strike many as a lack of ambition on the part of the officers of the regiment, which in certain respects it is; but at the same time the circumstances of the case, and the present condition and feeling in the regiment, tend to allay somewhat this surmise, and justifies the action of the regiment. Major Eunson, the officer in command, by virtue of the leave of absence granted Colonel Rockafellar, was not a candidate, we understand, for the vacancy, recent domestic bliss, business engagements, etc., having rendered his retirement from military duty necessary. The major, therefore, proposes resigning as soon as some officer is ready to take command of the regiment or fill his position.

The regiment has made a wise selection in its new field officer, and we do not think it could have done better, and while we do not favor, as a rule, seeking outside for candidates for any military position, we feel that in this instance a judicious course has been pursued that will undoubtedly aid the regiment. The fusive power of a military spirit like that of the lieutenant-colonel elect cannot but help allay all cause for future dissensions in the regiment. The lieutenant-colonel elect is an officer of long experience, and has repeatedly shown his qualities as a good soldier and love for the service by withstanding two apparent clique defeats in the Twenty-second for field positions, and to-day is the admiration of the company (D) he commands, and one of the most highly esteemed members of the First division. The social and business standing of the lieutenant-colonel elect is beyond reproach, which, together with military capacity, forms the most essential requisites of a successful officer of the National Guard. The Seventy-first by its action has offered an unqualified compliment to the Twenty-second, in addition to securing a gentleman whom we feel assured will give satisfaction to all concerned.

We understand the regiment has broached the name of ex-Colonel Jillson, at one time the commandant of the Providence, R. I., "United Train of Artillery," but now a resident in New York, for the position of major, and this infusion of "outside blood" into the field we think cannot help but give progress to the regiment whom we all honor.

TWELFTH INFANTRY.—This command is ordered to parade for division drill, in chasseur uniform, at the regimental armory, as follows: Companies A, C, G, and H, January 8 and 16; Companies D, F, I, and K, January 10 and 17; Companies B and E, January 12 and 19. Assembly at 8 o'clock p. m. At the inspection of recruits held at the regimental armory December 4, Company B was adjudged as entitled to the prize of two hundred dollars offered by the three field officers for the enlistment and muster of ten thoroughly equipped recruits. Company E on the same occasion having mustered seven recruits also thoroughly equipped, is announced as entitled to the second prize of one hundred dollars, the two companies named having complied with the conditions stated in General Orders No. 5, series 1871.

The action of Companies C and G in expelling Corporal Andrew C. Shear and Private Samuel C. Milligan, Company C, and Private Frank D. Baker, Company G, is approved by the colonel, and their names will be stricken from the rolls. The following resignations are announced, the officers named having been discharged for expiration of term of service: Captain William V. Byrne, Company C, December 8, 1871; First Lieut. Wm. V. Shaw, Company D, December 8, 1871; Second Lieutenant Edward Wood, Company D, December 8, 1871. Few officers have shown such long continued devotion to the best interests of the Twelfth as Captain Wm. V. Byrne, and his resignation has been received with regret.

THIRTEENTH INFANTRY.—Matters are working quietly in this command, yet considerable activity is displayed by regimental headquarters, and strong efforts are being made to increase the strength and efficiency of the regiment. We learn a movement is in progress toward obtaining the regiment's former commandant, Brevet Major-General James Jourdan, again to lead it, with what success we do not know. This officer would be a great acquisition to the command, and we trust the movement will meet with success. Lieutenant-Colonel Briggs, commanding, is guiding well the interests of the regiment, and the following order issued in his name evidently means work: The regiment is ordered to assemble in fatigue uniform at the armory at 8 o'clock p. m. for drill and instruction, by division, as follows: Companies B and D, January 15 and February 12; A and F, January 16 and February 13; G and I, January 17 and February 14; C, E, and H, January 18 and February 16. The general guides, markers, and sergeants of this command assemble at the armory in fatigue uniform January 12 at 8 o'clock p. m. for instruction as guides in the school of the battalion. Companies B, I, E, G, and A, comprising the right wing, assemble in fatigue uniform for drill and instruction at the State Arsenal, Portland avenue, January 23 and February 20, at 8 o'clock p. m., and Companies C, D, K, H, and F, comprising the left wing, assemble for same purpose, and at same time and place, January 25 and February 23.

The lieutenant-colonel commanding in orders states that

"the last series of division and wing drills were very poorly attended by most of the companies of this command. A more prompt and better attendance is required at the drills now ordered. A good soldier manifests his interest in his company and regiment, by his presence on all occasions of duty. Delinquents from drills appointed by General Orders from these headquarters will be held to a strict accountability for their non-attendance, by the next regimental court-martial." John Holbrook, Company E; Francis C. Wright, Company F; John Haddock, Company G, have been honorably discharged. For gross neglect of duty and nonpayment of dues and fines, Charlie Haetzcholdt, George W. Van Tassel, Robert F. Skeets, William G. Wingham, Richard O'Hara, Gerald Cavanagh, Company E, have been expelled; and the action of the commandant of Company C, in reducing Henry K. Morton, corporal of said company, to the ranks, for gross neglect of duty, is approved.

The first of a series of social concerts in this regiment occurred at the State Arsenal on Thursday evening.

FOURTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY.—The new year has opened well for this command. The earnest appeal of the Board of Officers relative to the reconsideration of the resignation of Colonel Austen has been answered in the affirmative, and on New Year's day the colonel, in reply to a large delegation of official "callers," announced his intention to remain with the regiment, at least for the present. The visit of the officers to the residence of the colonel was made still more pleasing by the presentation to Mrs. Colonel Austen by the officers of an elegant and complete China service set, as an expression of their kind regard for the admirable hostess of the Forty-seventh and its military friends who had entertained them on so many occasions during the administration of Colonel Austen. Major Rogers made the presentation on behalf of the officers, the recipient replying with ready spirit, expressing her willingness that her husband should remain with the regiment, and declaring that the fault found by most wives of National Guardsmen, absence from home on military business, had and would always be borne with the patience of Job. She also expressed herself as being thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the regiment, and stated that its and her interests were militarily one during the administration of its commander, whose resignation was offered against her wish, etc. Colonel Austen followed in a few remarks wherein he withdrew his resignation; after which the officers were entertained in the royal style so characteristic of the Forty-seventh's generous commander.

We congratulate the regiment in thus retaining the efficient services of Colonel Austen for at least a while longer, and we trust he may at all times retain the support and good wishes that he has at present in the regimental board. The friendly speeches made at the official meeting by our ambitious and meritorious friend Major Rogers, and others, including that of the regiment's senior commandant, Captain Lamb, were most kindly in spirit, and cannot help but raise the colonel in still higher estimation, and cover any little misunderstanding that at any time may have occurred in the Board of Officers of this command. The Forty seventh has been always worthy of success, and everything indicates final accomplishment in that line, if the present harmony continues among its increasing members.

NEW YORK STATE MILITARY ASSOCIATION.—We erroneously published the officers of 1870-71 of this association last week, and herewith append the correct list, as furnished by the secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel N. Gano Dunn: President, Major-General John B. Woodward; first vice-president, Brigadier-General D. M. Woodhall; second vice-president, Colonel Oscar Fulsom; third vice-president, Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. Bennett; fourth vice-president, Colonel James Smith; recording secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel N. Gano Dunn; corresponding secretary, Captain S. D. Cornell; treasurer, Lieutenant J. Holland; chaplain, Rev. T. C. Strong, D.D.

THE GOVERNOR AND THE STATE MILITIA.—The Commander-in-chief in his long message makes but meagre reference to the National Guard of New York, suggesting nothing for its advancement and offering no praise for one of the best organized and disciplined bodies of volunteers in the United States or even the world. The action of the First division of New York State in July last is barely referred to in remarks on processions and the riot of the 12th of July, in which he states "that the loss of life that ensued from the use of the military force is a matter for regret." We concur perfectly with Governor Hoffman in this statement. We fear, however, that the loss of life and destruction of property would have been far greater if the turbulent masses had not then and there been subdued by military force. The absence of praise from Governor Hoffman for the State troops on this occasion is the more to be regretted as pleasant words of recognition are about the only pay our soldiers ever get, and they might have aided somewhat their *esprit de corps*. We regret that we can not speak more favorably of this portion of the Governor's message, and trust that through the chief of staff some statement will be made fully covering this apparent omission. We append that portion of the message relative to the "Militia":

The State militia, known now as the "National Guard of the State of New York," numbers about twenty-four thousand officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates. The details will be made known in the report of the Adjutant-General. This valuable force, essential to the security of public order, ought to be generously sustained by the Legislature. A contract has been made, in accordance with authority vested in

the Governor by the law of last session, for supplying the forces with breech-loading rifles.

The Adjutant-General has made very satisfactory progress in obtaining the adjustment and allowance of claims of the State against the General Government for expenditures in the late war. At the time he came into office the balance of the claims which had then been presented to the accounting officers of the Treasury of the United States and were on file with them, unsettled, was \$932,132 82, of which it had been estimated not more than 50 per cent. could be recovered, owing to informalities of vouchers and irregularities occurring in the hurry of the times when the expenditures were made; and it was suggested that the Comptroller should employ a special agent for the adjustment of these claims, to be compensated by a percentage upon the amount which should be recovered. The Adjutant General, with my approval, placed the matter in the special charge of Colonel Stonehouse, the Assistant Adjutant-General, who was familiar with the origin of the claims, and detailed Captain Butler, of the Inspector General's Department, to assist him. There has been recovered already the sum of \$822,279 10, with the well-assured prospect of an early adjustment of the whole balance left unsettled on the 1st of January, 1869 (except certain items of interest on temporary bonds issued by the State, which will require Congressional action), and the prospect also of establishing the validity of further claims upon the Government. Additional claims, to the amount of \$364,107 07, have already been presented to the Treasury Department, and others, to about the same amount, will very soon be ready for presentation. The Legislature at its last session passed a concurrent resolution authorizing me to appoint a special agent to prepare and collect these claims, and to award to him such a percentage of the amount collected as I might deem just and proper. I have done nothing under this resolution, being satisfied that the claims can be adjusted and collected quite as rapidly through the clerical force of the Adjutant-General's office, and of course at much less cost to the State.

THE ROCHESTER RIOT AND THE MILITIA.—A portion of the National Guard of New York State on Tuesday was again called upon to aid the municipal authorities, this time in the city of Rochester, and for the purpose of suppressing the violent and lawless acts of a mob assembled to wreak its vengeance on a prisoner confined in the city jail on the charge of the commission of a heinous crime. As almost always happens in cases where the militia has fired, as in this, on a mob, there now, after the event, arises a dispute as to whether they were justified in resorting to so extreme a measure, and as to just what were their orders in regard to it. We shall not undertake to give an opinion on the action of the Rochester militia until we are furnished with fuller and more authentic facts than the reports of the local journals furnish. If certain of the troops fired without orders, whatever the provocation, they were guilty of a crime which cannot be justified; but whether they did or not, we shall probably soon learn from the official reports of their commanders. While we believe that decisive measures are in the end the most humane when the military undertakes to deal with a mob, yet whatever is done should be in strict accordance with orders, and not prompted merely by a spirit of resentment.

THE FINAL TRIAL OF BREECH-LOADING FIREARMS BY THE STATE COMMISSION OF MASSACHUSETTS.—The subject of the trial of breech-loading systems at Lowell, Mass., on Friday last, we clip from the Boston *Herald* of December 30. It is, we have reason to know, generally exact in its details. In justice to the Joslyn-Tomes (misprinted Joslyn-Formes in our last issue) gun, it should be stated that Dr. Joslyn, who manipulated this arm, was suffering from an indisposition especially affecting his nervous organization, and altogether incapacitated to develop the qualities of the invention. Mr. Wentworth likewise had an unfortunate experience with the Peabody, cutting his hand badly, though whether from the action of the lever-handle, as has occasionally happened with this arm heretofore, we are not informed:

The final trial of breech-loading muskets by the Commission appointed by Governor Claflin to recommend the arm of this class best suited for the militia, and for the purchase of which an appropriation of \$50,000 was made by the last Legislature, took place at the test house of the United States Cartridge Company in Lowell yesterday, and many officers of the militia of the Commonwealth were present to witness the tests, besides those who were interested in breech-loading guns. The trial was under the supervision of Major Eben Sutton of the Commission, and was thorough as regarded the Regular Army requirements.

The first arm tested was the "Brown" gun, manufactured by the Brown Company of Newburyport, which had been fired on the initiatory trial on Thursday of last week, but on this occasion the tests were complete. In the first place the party firing, Mr. Taylor, had to take cartridges from the Army cartridge-box, and fire in the direction of a target eighty feet distant, a minute, by the sand-box, being allowed; and in this time twenty-two shots were fired, fourteen of which hit the target. Next the sand test was applied to the gun, this consisting in covering the lock and working parts of the gun with sand, then loading it and firing four rounds, which left the musket in excellent order. This is a bolt gun, the arrangement being by two cams on a bolt against the receiver, the opening of the bolt cocking the gun, and there are eighteen pieces in the lock and breech, including the screws.

The next trial was the Remington gun, made by the Remington Company, at Ilion, N. Y., the firing being done by Mr. Bush, the principal mechanic of their works. In the time test from the cartridge-box he fired twenty shots, all of which struck the target; in the sand test the gun showed well, and in the two hundred and twenty yards firing, the cartridges being taken from the regulation box, sixteen shots were fired, thirteen being recorded as hits. This gun is breech-pivoted, under and in rear of the chamber, the firing being effected by a shoulder under the hammer passing under the block. There are twenty pieces in the lock and breech. The sand test was good; but after the second shot it was found impossible to open the breech by hand owing to a defective shell.

The Peabody gun was next in order, Mr. Wentworth doing the firing. On the eighty feet trial from the box he fired twenty rounds, eighteen of which struck the target, and on the sand test the gun showed very well. In the two hundred

and twenty yards range nineteen rounds were fired, twelve of which hit the target. This is a gun made on the system of a hinged falling block, dropping at the front end, and is locked by the position of the block on a line with the bore of the barrel. It has twenty-one pieces, including screws, in lock and breech.

Next in order came the Ward-Burton gun, made in New York, and fired by Mr. Whipple. In the short range, taking his ammunition from the box, he fired eighteen shots, of which thirteen were given as hits, and on the two hundred and twenty yards range he had twelve shots and seven hits, but the last of his cartridges prematurely exploded by the too rapid closing of the breech. This is a bolt gun and is worked by sectional screws, each gun having double the screw surface of a muzzle-loader. The charging is done by opening the bolt and laying in the cartridge, and the lock and breech comprise fourteen pieces.

The last of the guns tested was the Joslyn-Tomes gun, Mr. Joslyn of New York firing it. In the eighty foot test from the box he fired thirteen shots in the given time, twelve of which struck the target, but he was more unfortunate in the longer range of two hundred and twenty yards, as he fired ten shots, and of these only three were marked on the target. In the sand test the gun worked well. This is a bolt gun, operated by the hammer hooking under and working into the receiver, and the breech and lock contain sixteen pieces.

After the conclusion of the above tests a still further one was made at the United States Cartridge Factory, this being one trying the strength of the working parts of the guns. It consisted in charging them with a cartridge filled with "Washington" powder, this being treble the strength of common powder, bulk for bulk, and in this trial the guns were fired from a stand, two cartridges being shot from each. The Peabody and Remington guns stood the test well. In the Brown gun the breech opened with difficulty after the first fire, but after ejection of the shell it worked well.

The first shot of the Ward-Burton gun was good, but on the second the bolt could not be opened, and after a mallet had been used the attempt to fire the second was given up. On the trial of the Joslyn-Tomes gun it was found impossible to open the breech by hand, and at the second shot the hammer broke.

A magazine gun invented by Captain Meigs of Lowell was exhibited, which discharges fifty shots in nineteen seconds. The principle on which it is constructed is quite novel, and those who examined it expressed the opinion that it was in advance of anything of the kind in the country.

From a very complete report of the trial, written by Mr. W. Nichols for the Boston *Advertiser*, we quote the following, with particular reference to the tests for rapidity and accuracy:

After undergoing these tests, and without being taken apart and cleaned, the arms were tested for rapidity of firing and accuracy of shooting combined, the aim being taken at figures of men upon a target twelve feet square, at a distance of an eight of a mile, or, more correctly, 223 yards. The cartridges were taken from the cartridge-box worn upon the person. The time, as before, was one minute by the glass.

The Brown gun, using the cartridge of the United States Metallio Cartridge Company, of .50-inch calibre, was fired 20 times with 9 hits. Peabody, with the Berdan cartridge, .43-inch calibre, 19 shots, 12 hits. Joslyn-Tomes, with the cartridge of the U. S. M. C. Co., .50-inch calibre, 10 shots, 3 hits. (One missfire, snapped twice. Did not close the breech, and the hammer could not go down.) The Remington, with the Berdan cartridge, .42 inch calibre, 16 shots, 13 hits. The Ward-Burton, with the Berdan Rousmanie cartridge, .45-inch calibre, 12 shots, 7 hits. (One cartridge fired in closing the breech. With three could not pull the trigger. Cleaned bolt before trial, but not barrel. Manipulator never had fired a gun at a target.)

After undergoing these tests—which had demonstrated in a measure the endurance of the several arms—they were tested with regard to the strength of the mechanism, and then with regard to the effect of defective ammunition. Each gun was fired with specially prepared cartridges, charged with seventy-five grains of powder, equivalent to twice that amount of ordinary musket powder.

The Brown gun was fired with ten of these cartridges, and worked well afterward. Peabody, two shots; worked well after firing. Joslyn-Tomes, two shots; after first shot impossible to open breech by hand; the second shot broke the hammer. (Gun unserviceable. A letter from Mr. Joslyn accompanying the report was put in.) Remington, two shots; worked well after firing. Ward-Burton, two shots; worked well after firing.

The effect of defective ammunition upon the mechanism and the safety of the manipulators was then tested by cartridges notched around the head at four points to permit a free escape of the gases backwards. The Brown gun was then fired twice; the breech opened with difficulty at first; then, after ejection of shell, correctly. Berdan cartridge too long for chamber; burst shell, and could not permit breech to open easily. Peabody, two shots; worked well after firing. Remington, same as before; worked well after firing. (It was impossible to open breech by the hand after second shot—defective shell. After repeated workings fouling was worn off; gun worked well. U. S. Co. solid head cartridge.) Ward-Burton, two shots; first shot worked well; second shot, impossible to open bolt by hand; after using mallet bolt opened, but was almost impossible to work.

Up to the present time the decision of the board has not been made public.

With regard to the Joslyn-Tomes gun, which is reported disabled by the excessive charge test, an examination of the part broken plainly shows that the fracture was due to either a flaw or the over-temping of the hammer. The break did not occur on a line with the recoil, and would not have occurred at all had the hammer-piece been made of a suitable material, instead of exceedingly brittle steel. The Joslyn-Tomes gun is obviously the best arm of the type to which it belongs, its construction forbidding the dangerous incidents ascribed to the bolt system.

The premature explosion of a cartridge in the Ward-Burton arm by the "too rapid closing of the breech," we believe is the first officially-reported accident of this nature with this gun. It is, however, the particular defect which has been ascribed to arms of the bolt system. In the long English official trial, which ended in the adoption of the Martini-Henry, the inquisition of bolt guns in this respect was very severe, eliciting a general prejudice on the part of military men to the system on account of the liability of premature

cartridge explosion from the impact of the bolt itself. The fact was, moreover, stated that one of the experts—we believe Major Halford—had been injured by an accident of this nature, while Earl Spencer, a member of the commission, was equally unfortunate during the trial. We are informed that the Brown gun, of which similar accidents have been related, is now claimed by its makers to be free from this dangerous feature.

VARIOUS ITEMS.—On Tuesday evening, in the Kings county armory, Captain Kreuscher's Separate Troop of Cavalry, attached to the Eleventh brigade, Second division, gave its annual ball, which was a success in almost every particular. The large drill-room was somewhat devoid of decorations, yet the handsome uniforms and beautiful women attracted the attention of the critics, and obviated their apparent lack of taste. At 9 o'clock the Thirty-second regiment band "struck up," when the cavalry company with its new uniform marched around the hall in the customary style. Dancing followed, terminating at daybreak, when the party reluctantly departed to comply with the air of the last dance

"Put me in my Little Bed.".....On New Year's day Colonel Joseph Burger, commanding Twenty-eighth Infantry, was presented with a very fine photograph 18 by 27, which represented the Colonel in full uniform. He also received from the staff of his regiment a costly silver tea set, consisting of five very richly ornamented and engraved pieces. These presents were much admired by his numerous friends, who called on him during the day.....The Thirty-second Infantry is agitating a new uniform (full-dress) of gray cloth. The pickelhauben or helmet pattern of hat will probably be worn with this new dress. This command is anxiously looking for Marshal Leubuscher's returns of the delinquents of its last court held in July. By this, it is understood, no doubt is entertained of the honesty of the marshal, but it is feared that among his multitudinous duties he has forgotten the Thirty-second's delinquents.....One of the most flourishing cadet corps in this vicinity is the Turner Cadets, under the instruction of Lieutenant-Colonel Rueger of the Thirty-second Infantry. This corps recently gave an exhibition in Williamsburgh, its movements being witnessed by a large assemblage, including not a few military gentlemen of the Second division. The movements (without muskets) were simply of the school of the soldier and company according to Upton, and the handsome style of the executions would have put to blush many a company of National Guardsmen. The members vary in age from 7 to 12 years, and the corps numbers 75, and has its regular officers and a drum corps. Lieutenant-Colonel Rueger, associated with Dr. Ehrmann, have shown much skill and enterprise in raising and instructing this corps, and deserve much praise.....Company K, Ninth Infantry, has voted to subscribe \$2,000 toward fitting up its company room. The company has likewise introduced rifle practice, exercising at candle targets in the squad drill-room of the armory. This new feature "takes" immensely.....Battery K, First division, Captain Heubner, hold its fifth annual ball at the Teutonia Assembly Rooms January 15.The boxes for the Twenty-second's reception to be held at the Academy of Music January 8, are almost disposed of, and those anxious to secure any should apply at once to headquarters.....The Seventy-first is working quietly and progressively with its arrangements for its "house warming.".....The First is still looking for a leader, as also is the Fifth, Thirteenth, Ninety-sixth, and other regiments in this vicinity. We hear anonymously of a gentleman who, it is stated, is anxious to lavish about ten thousand dollars on some first class regiment who may elect him as its commander. Here is a chance for colonel-hunting committees! We fear, however, such an officer is as mythical as the proposition.....

Company H, Ninth Infantry, Captain Dow S. Kittle, gave a very select ball at Apollo Hall on Wednesday evening. The weather was unpropitious, the entertainment and company nevertheless was of the most happy character.....The National Rifle Association held its monthly meeting at First division headquarters on Tuesday evening. No business of general importance was transacted.

OUT-OF-TOWN ITEMS.

MARYLAND.—Fifth Infantry.—A correspondent writes that the Fifth regiment Maryland National Guard, Colonel J. Stricker Jenkins, is making extensive preparations for their "grand assembly," which takes place at the Masonic Temple on the evening of January 16. It will most assuredly be successful, as these occasions heretofore have proved. The elite, beauty, and fashion of the Monumental City will be there en masse, adding a brilliant lustre to the occasion. The Committee of Arrangements comprises Lieutenant-Colonel H. D. Loney, Major George R. Gaither, Jr., Captain Robert P. Brown, and Lieutenants William H. Rogers and T. Schryock—gentlemen well known, and technically termed "breach-loaders" of the most improved pattern. These officers are working hard, and are determined to make this ball one of the finest ever given in Baltimore.

The Fifth is likewise actively making arrangements to receive Company H, Captain Smith, Second regiment Pennsylvania National Guard, on its return through Baltimore from a visit to Mount Vernon and Washington, on the 22d of February next. The Second is one among other Philadelphia regiments that received the Fifth Maryland so handsomely on its route to and from Cape May, N. J., about eighteen months ago, at which place the Fifth were encamped for ten days. The Fifth, who, it is well known, never forgot

good treatment at the hands of brother soldiers belonging to a sister State, has made up its mind to reciprocate most handsomely on this occasion.

The veteran Drum-Major G. Bruce Barrett, formerly of the New York National Guard, has been busily at work "reconstructing" his Fifth regiment drum corps upon the basis of an association; and the boys have entered into the arrangement with a hearty good will. The corps of the Fifth is one the major may well feel proud of; he has been very careful in making his selections for the same. The members of the drum corps partook of its first anniversary supper at Wagner's Green House on New Year's night, at which the "Boss" (not Tweed) presided, and every time he raised his baton their rolls, taps, flams, etc., came down in perfect unison. A number of officers and members of the regiment were present on the occasion through invitations, and the veteran major was highly complimented during the evening. At a proper signal from the Boss, tattoo was beaten at a late hour of the night (without instrument), and at a certain signal Wagner gave the taps to extinguish lights.

RHODE ISLAND.—The Quartermaster-General of this State is now on his annual tour inspecting the different armories and the property of the State. It is something new to have one of the Governor's staff, or any other State officer, visit the Rhode Island commands officially, and last winter was the first time. Captain Dennis, of the Providence Light Infantry, was one of those who proposed the act by Legislature, and he has since performed his part toward carrying it out well; and, although the law does not compel this company to parade or exhibit anything for inspection but State property (of which it has 200 muskets only), yet it gave the inspecting officer the compliment of 105 men and officers in line last winter, and the example was followed throughout the State, and is being repeated this winter. It was, and is productive of much good; and we only wish the State would require more of the military companies and give them more support. Colonel Le Favor, of the First division staff, is preparing a code to present to the Legislature, he being one of a committee appointed for that purpose, with a view of revising the military law. The colonel has struck a hard job, we fear, as many have done before him, and we have doubts of his success. There are so many old chartered companies that they resist the minute their sacred right to choose a colonel for forty or so men is touched. There is where the State authorities are, or have been, to blame in the matter; and a single case in point shows it: The Burnside Zouaves had no charter, and were merely a club or independent company at first, and this old charter of the "United Train" had been lying idle, and no one paraded there for five years. The Burnside, therefore, petitioned the Legislature for it, and obtained it, instead of allowing the Legislature to put it into the stove, as it should have done, with about a dozen of similar charters at present held in that State. Of course, so long as these charter companies parade and fill the requirements, the State cannot disturb them. The time has been, however, within the past ten years, when every charter of this old institution has been forfeited, and might have been taken away, with the single exception of the United Train, who have always paraded and fulfilled its requirements to the letter from the day of its birth.

The "U. T. A.'s," so termed, are composed of most excellent material, and under Colonel Allen has made much progress. But we decidedly object to its present organization, as it is entirely unwarranted, and too old fogey for so young and enterprising a command. We trust the time is not far distant when the National Guard of Rhode Island will be founded on a basis in keeping with the otherwise progressive condition of the State.

United Train of Artillery.—We condense from the Providence Journal the following interesting account of a presentation to this command on the evening of December 26, by two representatives from the Philadelphia military—Mr. John A. Franks, of the Second Pennsylvania regiment, and Corporal George Grim, of the First regiment Gray Reserves.

After the preliminary business of the meeting, the two visitors were ushered into the presence of the company, accompanied by Colonel Allen and Colonel Henry Lippitt. Colonel Allen then introduced Mr. Franks, at the same time calling for three cheers for the Second Pennsylvania regiment. The present to be awarded was then brought forward, and consisted of a splendid photograph, elegantly framed, of three members of Company G, Second regiment National Guard of Pennsylvania. The gentlemen represented in the photograph were Captain Silas Petit, John A. Franks, and William C. Wilkinson, all warm personal friends of the U. T. A.'s. Mr. Franks made a short, pithy speech, in which he alluded to the pleasant relations existing between the U. T. A. and the regiment which he represented, and said they wished to take this method of expressing their esteem for the gallant United Train of Artillery. Colonel Allen called upon Colonel Lippitt to reply, and, though the Colonel was completely unprepared for any such unexpected emergency, he made a most happy and appropriate little speech, which was received with rounds of applause. Then followed a drill, music, and "a chowder with hot coffee."

First Light Infantry.—Captain Dennis, propose, giving a full dress parade to the State inspecting officer January 17, and are now actively preparing for the occasion. The company have continued drill during the winter, which, strange to say, is unusual with this command, and seldom, if ever, undertaken until Captain Dennis enforced it. The Light Infantry cadets (boys) are in a very flourishing condition, having recently organized a drum corps and added to their number. The Light Infantry have inaugurated a series of socials at the armory, the first of which was held on Thursday last. A calico ball will be given by the command January 25; and on February 22 the annual reception of the company will take place at Howard Hall, to be preceded during the day by parade of the company in full dress uniform.

The American Band and Brown & Reeves's Orchestra played for Worcester City Guard at Mechanics' Hall, Worcester, last Friday, which affair was attended by Captain Dennis, Lieutenant Bullock, and Paymaster Tool, of the Infantry, and others. The State Guard, Worcester, give a ball at the same place in March, the American Band furnishing the music.

THE GERMAN NAVY.

(Condensed from the London Broad Arrow, Dec. 16.)

At the present moment the German navy includes some of the finest ironclads in the world, one of the most powerful being the *Koenig Wilhelm*, which, through either apathy or stupidity, was allowed to slip through our fingers. The dockyards which are now under construction are planned on a scale commensurate with the largest dockyards in the world, and when completed will furnish harbors and accommodation both on the Baltic and North Sea for large fleets. In addition to these necessary elements to the acquisition of naval power, Germany has already made use of the slight experience gained about naval matters in the late war, and has set on foot a torpedo corps, consisting of officers and men detached for this special service, and has under construction special vessels for the torpedo service.

Russia evidently views this development with dislike and distrust. Indeed, in a very recent impression, one of the leading papers, the *Moscow Gazette*, distinctly points out that this feverish haste on the part of Germany to acquire a powerful navy, is a matter which requires the earnest consideration of the Russian Government, suggesting that the Baltic frontier of Russia is threatened, and that with Germany in possession of the Baltic by means of its navy, it would simply neutralize the Russian influence on those seas.

Under these circumstances it is impossible to have too accurate a knowledge of the condition and progress of this rising navy. Since the Danish war no effort has been relaxed to improve every branch of the service. In 1867, a large vote of no less than £1,350,000 was made to defray the extraordinary expense, which it was proposed to incur, of building ships, dockyards, and fortifications. At Jade, a most unpromising looking place, but well situated—a collection, in fact, of what would appear to be impracticable marshes—it was proposed to lay out a harbor on the North Sea for the use of the German fleets. Large sums have, year after year, been expended upon these works, and it is intended they shall be the finest arsenal in Germany. But while great efforts have been made to construct this new dockyard and arsenal on the North Sea, great pains have been taken, with great expense, to enlarge and improve the dockyards at Dantzig, Stralsund, and Kiel. And now that the works on the Baltic coast have been improved, the Russian press begins to feel a natural alarm when it finds that, as a necessary consequence of these extensions, it is proposed to commence ship-building upon an almost extravagant scale.

Not more than a year ago there were five iron-clads complete and two being constructed; now four, if not six more are under construction or are about to be ordered. Of these armor-plated ships, the *Kron Prinz*, *Koenig Wilhelm*, and *Friedrich Karl* are of great power; but they will probably be eclipsed by the new vessels under construction. Two turret-ships of the most modern design, and capable of using the heaviest armament, are now being built on the Thames, and in addition a large iron-clad frigate, the *Great Elector*, will soon be turned out of the German docks at Wilhelmshaven, and another of the same size and capacity will shortly be completed at Ellerbeck. When those are finished, and the two new iron-clads, the *Metz* and *Sedan*, are added to the German navy, Count von Roon may congratulate himself on the possession of a war navy of no mean power and capacity.

In the matter of armaments the German navy is confessedly weak. The Krupp ordnance which is now used, good though it is, cannot surpass or equal the capabilities of the Woolwich gun. Many improvements have been made, and our ordnance has had a close competitor in Krupp; but our regulation ordnance has the preference at the present time. But with the determination to acquire the newest style of fighting ship which can be produced, it has been determined to make use of the most powerful ordnance. The two new vessels, the *Metz* and *Sedan*, are broadside vessels, but are to be perfectly original in their construction, and unlike anything in our navy. The guns for these vessels are not yet made, but they are to be constructed for delivering a broadside of forty-five hundred-weight! The completion of these ships will, it may be believed, add something to our knowledge of naval construction. At present their progress is regarded with great interest.

But in wooden vessels some progress is being made. Three years ago there were nine corvettes, twenty-four gun-boats, and seven hulks or sailing vessels. Three more, the *Ariadne*, *Albatross*, and *Nutilus*, have recently been completed at Dantzig, and the *Louise*, a new corvette, is still under construction, while two more are ordered, besides a number of gun-boats.

It is said that the German navy is deficient in sailors, and that the naval force is wanting in physique and knowledge. There may be some truth in this, but it may well be doubted whether this is not a temporary difficulty easily to be overcome. The war had, very possibly, a bad effect on the navy, but not to an injurious extent. Still there must be some truth in these suggestions, for the same energy which has been applied to the erection of forts, ship-building, and the construction of dockyards, has been used to remedy any defects there may be in the training and seamanship of the sailors. Two vessels are now crossing the Atlantic manned by cadets, who are gaining their experience of sea life in anything but a theoretical way; two brigs are now cruising in the Spanish and Portuguese waters, with large complements of boys under instruction in seamanship; and at Kiel the plan which we adopt in the use of the *Excellent*, at Portsmouth, and the *Cambridge*, at Devonport, is used, by the maintenance of gunnery-ships for the practice of gunners and engineers.

How soon there may be a necessity to bring these vast preparations into use it is impossible to say. If the utmost speed and the most energetic progress may ensure their repose and prevent the necessity for their use, we wish their present speed and progress doubled. But already a naval complication has arisen in Brazil, and some importance is to be attached to what would otherwise bear the aspect of a passing brawl, when

Count von Roon himself stated, officially, in the Chamber that "complications with transmarine powers are very likely to occur in the immediate future." These were strong words, and if they refer only to a recent brawl between some natives and the crew of a German vessel, they are certainly overstrained. There is, however, the rumor that part of the German iron-clad fleet have been ordered to the Brazilian coast, or, at all events, to hold itself in readiness at any moment to cross the Atlantic.

We have considered it worth while to put together this current information respecting the progress of the German navy, and to define as clearly as possible its present position, because we think the study of the advance of this new rival to our fleets desirable, and capable, possibly, of providing many new ideas which may be reasonably followed. The energy and ingenuity which the German Government has applied to torpedoes is especially instructive and worthy of consideration by our Admiralty, and we cannot in other respects at the present time afford to ignore the progress which Germany is making in the direction of naval power, or to forget that valuable hints may be obtained from a careful study of its development.

FOREIGN MILITARY ITEMS.

GENERAL Von Roon has retired from the Ministry of War and Marine, and the Emperor has appointed Herr Stosch to fill the vacancy.

THE Prussian State debt at the end of 1871, including all loans for which payment is to be made out of the State treasury, amounts to 429,045,581 thalers.

THE French committee of the Assembly on the reorganization of the army propose to make the term of military service five years on active duty, four years in the first reserve and six years in the secondary reserve.

THE introduction of the North German *Kriegsdienstgesetz* (war duty law) in place of the Bavarian defence law of January, 1868, is creating much discussion throughout Bavaria. Unlike the other German States, every male inhabitant of Bavaria was obliged to perform military duty in his State only; while those belonging to a North German State were at liberty to do volunteer duty in any part of the Empire, excepting in Bavaria. That this variation was both annoying and involved great pecuniary expense for a Bavarian student, merchant, or other person living in North Germany for any purpose obliging him to return home in order to fulfill his military obligations, is apparent. No wonder the Bavarian rejoices at the installment of his long-prayed-for military *Freizeitigkeit*.

The famous story of the "stuffed captain" in the Prussian army has at length received a satisfactory explanation by the official press. In all Prussian budgets there figures a captain of the First Regiment of Foot Guards, for whose pay the estimates are charged with 1,300 thalers, though the officer's name is not to be found in the army list. The mystery has given rise to many humorous but none the less violent attacks from the Progressists, who scented in the item one of the numerous false pretences by which government was supposed to obtain funds. The "stuffed captain," who was again made the subject of a fierce attack in the latest fight over the Budget, turns out to be no other than His Majesty himself, by his imperial dignity captain of his own First Foot Guards. He does not, however, pocket the 1,300 thalers for his own use, but pays them regularly toward the support of the tallest men in that company of giants, for which, like Frederick the Great, he has a constitutional tenderness.

It appears that General Cluseret has escaped the fate of so many of his brother communists, and has arrived in New York. The Paris correspondent of the New York *Times* gives the following account of his escape:

On the 16th of November General La Cecilia and General Cluseret were secreted at a little hotel in an unsuspected quarter of Marseilles, where they were faithfully attended by the former keeper of a well-known Parisian resort. On the 17th they separated, Cluseret embarking at night on board the *Messagerie* steamship *Roi Jerome*, en route for Civita Vecchia, and La Cecilia remaining in his obscure hotel. Cluseret had shaven off heavy beard and moustaches, and donned the garb of a Dominican friar, as that order is very numerous in Italy and France, and is especially numerous in Marseilles, whence you may each day see them embarking on their way to several parts of Italy. In Rome, curious to relate, Cluseret became the guest of the famous ex-Jesuit Passaglia, at the "Hotel delle Isole Brittaniche," where many prominent members of the Commune had rendezvoused previous to their projected escape to the United States. The next news heard from Cluseret announced him to be at Genoa about to embark in a steamship of the Burns & MacIver line, bound to Southampton. From Southampton he wrote to Marseilles under the pseudonym of "Giacomo Ricolti," saying:

To Eugene Roche (General La Cecilia):

MY DEAR BROTHER: I have at last completely escaped the power of the rulers of the false Republic of Versailles, and am free to work with you anew for the regeneration of France. Pardon the brevity of this note. I am too ill and careworn to write you more fully until I arrive in America.

Yours, most devotedly, GIACOMO.
Southampton, November 28, 1871.

Cluseret has not since been heard from by La Cecilia.

THE *Militair Wochentblatt*, the official organ of the Prussian army, informs us that, "In the Austrian Hungarian army the Field Signal Service is now definitely established, and special instructions for its organization and management have been issued. Agreeably to these orders, a signal detachment with complete apparatus for distant communication, is to be attached to each division. Further, in special cases, temporary signal parties are to be established with detachments of troops, to insure com-

munication with each other and with the main body. For large masses, mounted and foot, signal orderlies are provided; the former to connect the divisions with each other and with corps headquarters, the latter to connect advanced and rear guard and distant reconnoitring parties with their divisions. Corps commanders and the chiefs of cavalry and artillery are provided at all times with mounted signal orderlies."

MAJOR VON CODENSTERN, in his work, "Das Norddeutsche Bundesheer in Kampfe gegen Frankreich, 1870 und 1871," estimates the entire loss of the North German federal army to be 5,198 officers, 98,618 privates, 68 surgeons, 2 chaplains, 3 paymasters. Of this number there are dead 1,587 officers, 18,253 privates, 9 surgeons, 1 chaplain, 1 paymaster; wounded, 3,539 officers, 73,363 privates, 51 surgeons, 1 chaplain, 1 paymaster; missing 72 officers, 6,902 privates, 8 surgeons, 1 paymaster.

COLONEL George W. Dent, a prominent lawyer and formerly adjutant-general of the Confederate army of Tennessee, under Generals Joseph E. Johnston and Bragg, died at Alexandria, Va., on the morning of January 2.

BRIGHAM YOUNG is a prisoner in one of his own houses, at Salt Lake City, in the custody of a United States marshal, on a charge of murder. Bail was refused by Judge McKeon, though the large amount of half a million was mentioned. The Mormon prophet has surrendered himself under an indictment returned against him by the Grand Jury in September last. The charge is that in 1857 Brigham Young instructed one Hickman and two others to murder a man in the Echo Cañon, and to deliver to him the money found on the person of their victim. The instructions are said to have been followed to the letter, and the bones of the murdered man were recently discovered in the spot indicated by Hickman after his arrest by the United States authorities.

HEADQUARTERS AMERICAN UNION CLUB,

NEW ORLEANS, December 16, 1871.

At a regular meeting of this club, held this evening, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, We have learned with profound regret of the death of our late comrade in arms and member of this club, General James McCleery, in whose removal by the hand of Providence this club has lost a true friend and tried companion and our country a faithful officer and an efficient public servant; therefore be it

Resolved, That we deeply deplore his loss and revere his memory, and tender our sincere sympathies to his family and relatives in their affliction.

Resolved, That both in public and in private life our lamented comrade was above reproach. He has gone to his early grave with no stain upon his fair fame, thus leaving an example of purity that shall never perish, though we see his face no more.

Resolved, That these resolutions be published in the New Orleans Republican and in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

WILLIAM WRIGHT, President.

E. E. ADAMS, Secretary.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

HALE—PALMER.—On December 27, 1871, in Christ church, Detroit, Mich., by the Rev. Jno. W. Brown, First Lieutenant JOSEPH HALE, Third Infantry, to PATTI W., daughter of General Friend Palmer, of Detroit. (No cards.)

BRENT—DESHLER.—By the Rev. Edward Ingersoll, at Trinity church, Buffalo, on the 21st December, 1871, Captain THOS. L. BRENT, Third U. S. Cavalry, to FLORA, youngest daughter of the late D. W. Deshler, of Columbus, Ohio.

“LINDEN HALL.”

Founded 1794.

MORAVIAN SEMINARY FOR YOUNG LADIES.

Rev. EUGENE A. FRULAUFP, Principal.

Lititz, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. This Institution offers the very best advantages to the daughters of Army, Navy and Marine Corps officers, not only for a thorough English education, but, also, for instruction in Music, both vocal and instrumental, French, German, Drawing, Painting, etc., etc. Upwards of five thousand young ladies have been educated at this seminary (with but one exception the oldest in America) since its foundation, more than a quarter of a century ago.

In writing for Terms a favor will be conferred in mentioning that you saw this in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

OWEN'S MODERN ARTILLERY.—A new work Imported and for sale by U. S. MILITARY POST LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, 58 Broadway, New York city.

OFFICE ACTING COMMISSARY SUBSISTENCE, WILLET'S POINT, N. Y. H., December 3, 1871.

SEALED PROPOSALS, IN DUPLICATE, WILL BE received at this office until 11 A. M., January 3, 1872, for furnishing the FRESH BEEF required by the Subsistence Department U. S. Army, for officers and men at this station, during Five months commencing February 1, 1872. A deposit of \$100 will be required with each proposal and a guarantee of good faith. Information as to conditions, payments, etc., can be obtained by application to

CHAS. E. L. B. DAVIS,
First Lieutenant, Corps of Engineers, A. C. S.

J. B. KIDDOO

(Brigadier-General U. S. Army, retired).

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW,
No. 192 BROADWAY (Room 15), NEW YORK.

Especial attention given to the legal business of officers of the Army and Navy.

CAPTAIN JOHN RZIHA, FOURTH INFANTRY, now commanding a nice one-company post, near the Ohio river, in Kentucky, wishes to transfer with any Captain of similar rank, serving on the plains. Would prefer the frontier of old Mexico. Address Captain JOHN RZIHA, Paducah, Ky.

LIVE GAME WANTED!

FIFTY OR MORE DEER, ALSO ELK, MOOSE, and other live game, for breeding purposes, delivered alive to railroad. Address offers, with price, to office of Blooming Grove Park, 103 Fulton St., New York. Western papers please copy.

\$20 BILLIARD TABLE — FULL-SIZED balls and cues. Quick Rubber Cushions. Very portable. Biagran mailed free. ABBOT & NICHOLLS, 95 Liberty street, New York.